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THE TIMES

Sir Peter Hall and the National Theatre, page 9

;oviet fighter's gunfire caused deaths in Korean airliner

sengers in the South Korean airliner which forced down on an ice-covered lake in thern Russia on Thursday said yesterday the two who died had been killed by gunfire from a Soviet fighter plane. Another 13 passengers were wounded by the intercepting MiG's strafing. Yesterday the passengers left Helsinki by air for Seoul.

Russians still detain pilot and navigator

Olli Kirinen
ki, April 23

has been confirmed that iet Air Force jet shot at outh Korean airliner which off course on Thursday forced it to crash land near in Karelia in northern Russia. The deaths of passengers and wounding were caused by the strafing, passengers said after they been flown to Helsinki this morning.

passengers, including two ns, were flown on today Helsinki on a special an airlines flight to Seoul, original destination. Mr Chang Kyu, the captain e plane, and Mr Lee Kun the navigator, were de d by the Russians and did arrive in Helsinki from nsk on the rescue flight red by Pan American Air-

e Russians have also kept airliner's black box flight rder.

Cho Choon Hoon, presi of the South Korean air said that en electrical had paralysed the Boeing electrical navigation sys on Thursday night when it ed 90 degrees off course into the Soviet Union over area of great military cou ration.

he crew members of the an airliner were whisked y a Helsinki and refused to to the press about the inci except for Cha Soun Do, first officer, who said at a conference that only one had strafed the Korean raft. It did so three times, said, partly destroying the wing.

Benson Cohen and Mr liam Howard, the two Lon businessmen who were on flight from Paris to Seoul, they came close to being led by the Soviet fighter fire. The two were sitting right front of the Japanese and Korean who died in the ne, Mr Cohen said. He one of the victims was led almost instantly and the er died while receiving ical help.

We did not know of any ble until we heard a loud losion", Mr Cohen said. did not know that we in the Soviet Union. . . one of the stewards said we were in Alaska."

said the airliner was dam and lost height very dy. There was panic and sion on board and it grew worse when Russian sol appeared two hours after ng.

other passenger said that had thought that the strafing planes were American because they assumed they were in Alaska.

Mr Cohen said: "We were all treated very well by the Russians, and I have no complaints except that we were not allowed to contact our relatives. Otherwise the Russians were courteous and kind."

He said the pilot's landing on a frozen lake after being forced down was miraculous, and all the passengers praised the pilot.

After the first soldiers came, helicopters arrived that lifted the wounded and then the others from the dark snow-covered forest area to the nearest road. From there vehicles took them to Kem, the nearest Karelian town.

The passengers were housed in a comfortable club and in a school, Mr Cohen said. Wounded passengers were taken to a hospital. Later the passengers and the crew were transported to Murmansk.

The relief flight had to be arranged by the Americans because South Korea has no diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union. A Pan-American Airways craft was flown on Saturday from Berlin to Murmansk via Leningrad, where it picked up an American Consul and Russian interpreters and guides.

After a nervous wait in Murmansk while the Americans tried unsuccessfully to arrange the release of the Korean captain and navigator, the aircraft was able to depart for Helsinki where it arrived at 4.15 am yesterday.

From Helsinki airport most of the relieved passengers were taken to luxury hotels. Nine passengers were taken to hospitals, but they were able to leave Helsinki with the others yesterday afternoon for Seoul.

M Jean-Claude Barel, a French businessman said that the aircraft dropped from 30,000ft to 6,000ft in less than five minutes.

"Then I saw a MiG on the righ side. I heard what I thought was an explosion but it was the MiG firing on us. The bullets hit the rear of the plane."

"The rear half of the plane slowly filled with something looking like fog. There was great confusion for a moment. Then the captain managed to regain stability and kept flying until he found the lake to land on. That was one and a half hours after being shot at."

Mr Otani said that "in Kem the captain told us that the compass was inaccurate after about four hours from our departure from Paris. He said he knew the plane was off course when he saw islands. He said we were supposed to fly over the Arctic ice where there are no islands.

"When we got in over Soviet territory the captain said he tried to talk to Soviet air control but he received no answer."

The Soviet Union has said that the Korean airliner was forced down after its pilot ignored orders to land at Murmensk and flew evasively for almost two hours.

Conventional navigation: The Korean Boeing 707 did not carry the INS computer system used to keep aircraft on course despite magnetic pole interference, a spokesman for the Korean airline said in Helsinki today.—Reuter.

Seoul: South Korea tonight asked the United States and Japan to negotiate with the Soviet Union for early release of the pilot and the navigator.—AP.

Michael Binyon writes from Moscow: The whereabouts of the South Korean pilot and navigator remain unknown.

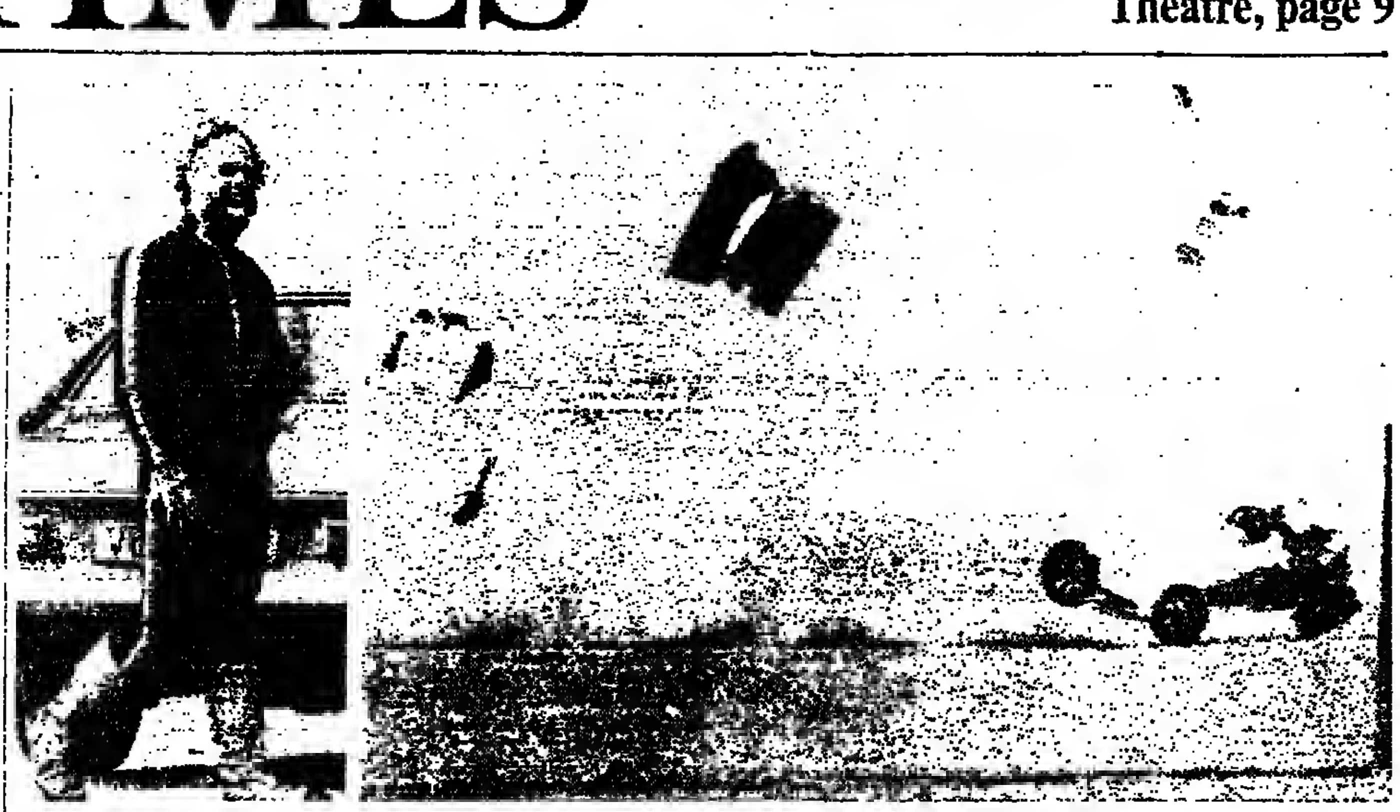
The United States Embassy here, which looks after the interests of South Korea in the Soviet Union, said the men were believed to be still near Murmansk. The embassy said it was concerned about their detention. It had understood that the Soviet offer to let an American aircraft fly the survivors to Helsinki had meant that the whole crew could leave, a spokesman said.

The Russians evidently intend to question the two men closely.

The Russians have said nothing about the whole affair beyond a brief announcement by Tass on Friday that the airliner had violated Soviet air space and had landed on a lake after being intercepted. No mention was made of any casualties.

Prime strategic area, page 6

Mr Benson Cohen (left), and Mr William Howard, the two British passengers in the Korean airliner, seen at Helsinki airport yesterday.



Crash ends speed attempt: Mr Barry Bowles (left) walking away without serious injury after his rocket-propelled car, "Blonde Bombshell" (right), crashed at 280 mph during an attempt on the British land speed record at Pendine Sands, Dyfed, yesterday. Mr Bowles, aged 32, suffered minor cuts and bruises. The car went suddenly out of control and turned over. Mr Bowles, who was strapped in, travelled more than 200 yards upside down as it passed through the one kilometre timing markers and then swerved off the course. It was found that the rear left tyre had punctured. Goodyear said the tyres were not built for such speeds. They were Grand Prix racing tyres made for speeds of up to 200 mph. Tests had shown they could fail at above 250 mph. Mr Paul Lauritzen, manager of Goodyear's European racing division, said that the company was concerned about the record attempt. "We sent a recorded delivery letter to Bowles at the beginning of the week indicating the risk he was taking, completely without our approval." A representative for Mr Bowles said the Goodyear warning applied to the front tyres, which had been replaced with an American type used in drag racing and capable of speeds of more than 400 mph. Mr Bowles had continued to use Goodyear tyres on the rear wheels.

Secrets letter sent in error to Communists

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

A letter on behalf of the Prime Minister advising news organizations that the heads of Britain's "two intelligence agencies" were shortly to be replaced on their retirement, but that no announcement would be made of the changes, was sent in error to the editor of the *Morning Star*, which is not on the list for such information.

That was acknowledged authoritatively yesterday after the previous day's headline treatment in the organ of the Communist Party of Great Britain of the letter and a photograph of an office building in Lambeth, London, that bore the caption, "The spies' tower block".

A leading article said: "We as a paper do not intend to take part in the cover-up charade which cloaks not only the names of the heads of the intelligence services in absolute secrecy but also their operations."

However, the newspaper did not disclose the identities of the new intelligence chiefs, and quoted only a West German magazine in repeating the identity of a previous head of the secret intelligence service (MI6).

The letter from 10 Downing Street which was sent to editors of all British news organizations, did not include the names. It did disclose, if inadvertently, the existence of "the two" intelligence agencies. Officialdom acknowledges the "security service" (MI5), but not the existence of the secret intelligence service (MI6).

An advisory enclosure with the letter, published in the *Morning Star*, more damagingly disclosed that 24-hour protection for the two intelligence chiefs would not be practicable.

The letter's stated purpose was to explain that the concern of the Prime Minister and his colleagues over protecting identities went beyond national security to include threats from "domestic terrorist groups", including the IRA.

That concern covered the intelligence chiefs and their families. Downing Street had no comment beyond acknowledging the terms of the letter.

However, for the Prime Minister to have letters written to a communist newspaper advising it of changes in intelligence leadership is bound to be seen as extraordinary, coming as it does in the middle of a political furore over official secrecy. It will make it all the harder for ministers to complain about the four Labour MPs who used parliamentary privilege last week to name "Colonel B", a secrets case witness, on the floor of the House.

The *Morning Star* said that it had received two letters. One was on behalf of the Prime Minister, from Mr Tom McCaffrey, the press secretary at 10 Downing Street. The other was a photocopy of a letter to editors from the "spokesman of the press and broadcasting section of the Defence, Press and Broadcasting committee".

The first letter, to Mr Anthony Chater, editor of the *Morning Star*, said:

Dear Mr Chater—The Prime Minister has asked me to write to you personally about forthcoming changes at the head of the two intelligence agencies.

During the next few months the present heads of both the agencies will be retiring, and new appointments will be made. We do not propose to announce either the fact that the changes are occurring or the names of those newly appointed.

According to the newspaper, the letter added that Mr Callaghan was "anxious that you should know that in reaching this decision he and his colleagues have had in mind not just considerations of national security [and in that context a D notice from No 10 is relevent], but also, and especially, the personal security of the individuals concerned and of their families".

As for the second letter enclosed with the first, it said, according to the *Morning Star*, that "a threat arising from terrorist groups . . . could become a serious obstacle to the efficient functioning of the intelligence services".

MPs on both sides of the House are to seek today to return to the affair of the naming of Colonel B. But it is unlikely that the Speaker will have much time for them after his ruling last Friday.

Mr Douglas Hoyle, Labour MP for Nelson and Colne, has written to the Prime Minister asking him to institute an inquiry into the affair. Mr Hoyle said he wanted an end to the "cloak-and-dagger" aura surrounding the security services.

Herr Schmidt's aim at Chequers talks

By Caroline Atkinson

Mr James Callaghan, the Prime Minister, and Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, began a day and a half of talks on the outlook for the world economy over dinner at Chequers last night.

Both sides are anxious about the present state of the industrialized economies and eager to make some progress in the talks. However, each places a different emphasis on the problems facing the world.

The West Germans are particularly keen to solve the problem of currency instability, and favour a new European approach to currency reform.

While the British are happy to study any proposals they believe first that the Americans must be closely involved in any move to solve the currency upheavals of the past year, and second that currency reform alone is not enough.

They believe the continued slow growth and high unemployment in the West need to be dealt with at the same time as the currency problems. The British would like concerted action to stimulate growth, which could then help to justify further tax cuts in Britain.

Mr Callaghan is trying to win acceptance for the five-point recovery plan which he took to America, and to prepare the ground for a successful summit meeting of the seven major nations in July.

Chancellor Schmidt is probably wary of entering new international commitments to growth targets which it may be difficult to keep. There is widespread scepticism in West Germany about the 4½ per cent target for European growth in 1979 which was agreed at the recent Copenhagen summit of EEC leaders.

It is already obvious that many countries, Britain most probably among them, will be unable to achieve such a rapid rate of growth, and it is far from clear which countries, if any, would be able to grow faster in order to boost the EEC average to 4½ per cent.

Currency reform will thus be at the top of Herr Schmidt's list of topics for discussion.

A plan for European reform of currency management was discussed at the Copenhagen summit. Since then the plan has been kept more or less under wraps. The Germans do not want a big build-up to any reform which would then result in disappointment when finally put into operation.

The proposals involve widening of the snake (the European joint exchange rate float), taking steps towards a pooling of EEC reserves, and turning the European Unit of Account into a currency which could be used as a reserve currency in place of dollars.

Initial British reaction to the Brussels plan was unfavourable although some top officials believed that it could be an important step forward.

The Germans are anxious in today's talks to forestall outright opposition from Britain which could kill the plan. Herr Schmidt would prefer to get positive backing from the Prime Minister, although he recognizes that even if the proposals are implemented the British are extremely unlikely to join a new snake. France, however, would be expected to join.

German unwillingness to discuss growth targets and new measures for stimulating their economy does not arise from optimism about their economy. Indeed it is now widely admitted that the official target for 3½ per cent growth this year will not be met, and 2½ per cent is more likely.

The Germans will not decide on new measures to boost growth until late June or July when they have more reliable information.

ope says he is hopeful of s 'save Moro' plea

Peter Nichols
, April 23

Pope today told the s gathered in St Peter's e for his blessing that eck so far of a reply to ter to the Red Brigades. ed yesterday, gave reason ope that Signor Aldo the kidnapped former Minister, might still be

his letter he had told the ists: "I beseech you on nees; free Aldo Moro."

Pope wrote this letter in wn handwriting on Friday . He dispensed in it with ormality, using the first n singular and clearly ified the "men of the Brigades".

Pope's unprecedented tive was warmly wel d. Signora Eleanora Moro, expressed gratitude for it, been in open conflict with Christian Democratic Party its first decision not to tiate with the kidnappers. This decision is still maintained although the party is now ready to allow the Roman Catholic humanitarian organization Caritas to attempt an independent mediation.

Fresh flowers and photographs of the murdered bodyguards today marked the place in Via Fani where Signor Moro was captured over a month ago.

This year's May Day in Italy will be dedicated to the "fight against terrorism", the country's three main trade union confederations announced.

David Watts writes from Cairo: The Egyptian police say that they have broken up a ring of European and Arab terrorists which had links with the Italian Red Brigades.

Among the 20 people held are a German man and a Swiss woman. Those captured are said to have admitted links also with Palestinian extremists.

Chairman of Lancashire police body steps down

Mr Frank Lofthouse, chairman of the Lancashire police authority, has stood down after allegations that he tried to pervert the course of justice.

Mr Stanley Parr, who was dismissed last year as Chief Constable of Lancashire after being accused of showing favouritism over police prosecutions, has alleged that approaches were made to him by Mr Lofthouse. Mr Lofthouse has denied the allegation but said he would stand down until inquiries were resolved.

Mr Parr said yesterday that he was approached by Mr Lofthouse, who asked him to see what he could do about charges being made after a fatal motor accident.

Mr Parr was referring to a case involving a woman driver, aged 20, who killed two women in a road accident. The driver was originally charged with dangerous driving, but was later charged with careless driving and acquitted in court.

Mr Parr said that Mr Lofthouse and Mr Leonard Broughton, chairman of the county council, saw him briefly at a later stage on the same matter.

apu guerrillas executed r attack on leader

Lawrence Pintak
ka, April 23

ur members of Mr Joshua mo's Zambian-based guer army were executed at a here last week for the mpted assassination of Mr d. Nikita Mangena, the ary commander of Mr mo's Zimbabwe African le's Union (Zapu) wing of Patriotic Front, according formed sources.

Mangena, who is now rstood to be receiving cal treatment in the Soviet n, suffered multiple bullet nds and lost a finger in the k which occurred at a rilla camp about 20 miles of Lusaka last month.

e would-be assassins were d guilty in an investigation ucted by the military ership, but not before they icated others in the plot, sources said.

e attempt on Mr Man 's life was the latest mani tion of a major, politically tribally motivated rift with he organization, which has lted in the polarization of political and military s.

e largely Ndebele fighting e has for some time felt that its opinions have been ignored by the Karanga-dominated political leadership.

Mr Mangena, a member of the Karanga subgroup of the Shona tribe, enjoys widespread support among the guerrillas.

Frustrated that their views were being ignored, Mr Mangena led his guerrillas in a revolt last December, taking over at least three camps and carrying out a series of attacks on Zanu's Lusaka headquarters, in which five people were killed.

Although token gestures were made by the political leadership to give the guerrillas more say in decision-making, relations with the military have degenerated to such an extent that Mr Nkomo's leadership itself could be in danger.

Immediately after the shooting of Mr Mangena, the would-be assassins sought and were granted refuge at Mr Nkomo's Lusaka home.

Zanu denial: The Zimbabwe African National Union (Zanu) denied a report in *The Times* on Saturday that three top men of the guerrilla group had been found guilty in Mozambique of plotting to overthrow Mr Robert Mugabe, its leader.—Reuter.

Government hint of action to cut higher tax rates

The Government seemed to be signalling its *willingness yesterday* to concede a reduction in the highest rates of income tax (our Political Editor writes). Mr Harold Lever, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, the minister with special responsibility for small businesses, stated on television that correction of the highest tax rates was "overdue" and that reduction was "the number one priority" for future action by the Chancellor of the action Page 2

Speaker helps an MP

The Speaker has helped a backbench MP who wishes to compile a list of parliamentary questions that government departments refuse to answer. He has suggested a tactic for discovering whether there have been any changes since 1971-72 Page 2

Progress on Namibia

Dr Owen last night met the foreign ministers of four Western nations to formulate a joint answer to South Africa's request for "clarification" on their proposals for Namibia (South-West Africa). The South African Cabinet is holding a critical meeting on the proposals tomorrow Page 6

Saigon corruption

Three years after the communist takeover in Saigon the corruption associated with the old regime is back, refugees report. Prisoners can buy their way out of jail and travel documents can be obtained by bribery Page 6

Vance talks end with hope for Salt pact

Mr Vance, the American Secretary of State, flew to London from Moscow after talks which brought a strategic arms agreement measurably closer. The cordial atmosphere at his departure seemed to mark the end of Russian suspicions that the Carter Administration was deliberately dragging its feet in this area Page 6

Nuclear waste warning

Professor Edward Radford, chairman of the America National Academy of Sciences advisory committee to the United States Government on the effects of ionizing radiations, has suggested more stringent safety standards covering the release of effluent from plants reprocessing waste nuclear fuel Page 2

Likely Kadar successor

Mr Karoly Nemeth, a Hungarian Communist Party secretary has been given new responsibilities which, according to sources make him a likely successor to Mr Janos Kadar, the party leader. He took over responsibility for party administration from Mr Bela Biszku, who retired at the age of 57 Page 7

Human rights: Some EEC countries will oppose proposed human rights clauses in the new Lomé convention 4

School meals action: The National Association of Head Teachers is to back school heads who send pupils home at midday for lack of qualified meals supervisors 2

Fare proposals criticized: Police chiefs have detailed their objections to proposed on-the-spot excess charges for fare evaders on buses 4

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Speaker helps MP to update list of questions government departments refuse to answer

By Peter Hennessy

Mr George Thomas, Speaker of the House of Commons, has intervened to assist a backbench MP to compile an up to date list of parliamentary questions that government departments persistently refuse to answer.

The most recent list of debarred topics available was given six years ago to the Select Committee on Parliamentary Questions, which sat in 1971-72. It lists 95 items, which are reproduced below.

They vary from self-evidently sensitive matters such as telephone tapping, "security source operations" and the regional seats of government for housing ministers and officials in a time of national emergency, to seemingly innocuous information such as the names of holders of merit awards in the social services and advice given to the Secretary of State for Wales by the Welsh Council.

The issue has been reopened by Mr Jeffrey Rookar, Labour MP for Birmingham, Perry Bar. In the past he has been prevented from putting down a parliamentary question to find out the latest list, if list there be, because the House of Commons table office has no minister designated to respond to it. Last week he wrote to the Speaker in an attempt to resolve the impasse.

In his reply Mr Thomas points out that ministers may be asked once during each session of Parliament whether they

Mr Rooker: List called in question.

will answer a previously debarred question. As Speaker, he has no powers, he explains, to instruct the table office to accept a question that a government department has refused.

But he accepts Mr Rooker's point that the 1971-72 list may be out of date and suggests a tactic to remedy it. His letter states:

I see no reason why you should not test the position by asking each of the ministers concerned whether it is still the practice not to answer on the particular topics named in the list; if any more topics have been added since; no what dates: and what are the relevant references in Hansard. If you wish to proceed in this way, I am sure that the table office will be glad to help you.

Mr Rooker described the Speaker's reply yesterday as extremely important. "It seems to me he is being as helpful as he possibly can, and has strengthened the position of backbenchers", be added.

He will visit the table office today and put down questions along the lines suggested by the Speaker for reply next week. He believes the subject of forbidden parliamentary questions has been a neglected aspect of the debate taking place in the Cabinet and the Labour Party about official secrecy and open government.

The six-year-old list of prohibited subjects covers the following:

Agriculture: Day-to-day matters of agricultural marketing boards, the British Sugar Corporation, the Meat and Livestock Commission, the White Fish Authority; agricultural workers' wages, the amount of strategic food reserves and forecasts of changes in food prices.
Attorney General: Details of investigations by the Director of Public Prosecutions, day-to-day administration of the legal aid scheme and details of inquiries made by the Queen's Proctor.
Defence: Details of arms sales, operational matters, contract prices, costs of individual aircraft etc, details of research and development, the numbers of foreign forces training in Britain and accident rates for aircraft.
Education: Curricular matters, discipline in schools, detailed expenditure within universities, the Arts Council (no intervention on policy, or statistics of individual grants) and instructions to research councils.
Employment: Strike statistics for individual firms, numbers employed in individual firms, forecasts of future levels of unemployment, forecasts of future trends in incomes, detailed matters of industrial training boards, numbers of registered disabled persons employed by individual firms and day-to-day workings of the National Dock Labour Board.
Environment: Forecasts of housing starts, council house waiting lists, rents for government offices and the Sports Council
Exchequer: Economic and budgetary forecasts, the Bank rate, the Exchange Equalization Account, government borrowing, sterling balances, tax affairs of individuals or companies, day-to-day matters of the Bank of England, the commercial activities of British Petroleum, the administration of the House of Lords attendance allowance, individual consignments of goods through customs and excise and regional figures for National Savings.
Foreign and Commonwealth: Proceedings of the Commonwealth Sanctions Committee, the supply of arms, terms of engagement of individual officers, future forecasts of overseas aid, elections in the Security Council, ministerial meetings of the Western European Union, the Nato Council, attendance records at the Council of Europe and OECD meetings.
Home: Telephone tapping, names of prohibited immigrants, regional seats of government, security source operations and police operational matters.
Lord President of the Council: House of Commons staff.
Northern Ireland: Intelligence sources.
Posts and Telecommunications: Programme content.
Prime Minister: Telephone tapping, Cabinet committees, the cost of the "hot line", security arrangements at Chequers, detailed arrangements for the conduct of government business and lists of future engagements.
Scotland: Commercial confidentiality of ferry services, inquiries by industrialists and proceedings of Scottish Economic Planning Council.
Social Services: Purchasing contracts in the NHS, reasons for appointing members of hospital boards, names of holders of merit awards, the day-to-day running of the General Practice Finance Corporation and personal information gained from social security schemes.
Trade and Industry: Details of air-miss inquiries, commercial activities of the Overseas Marketing Corporation, trade statistics for Scotland, financial support for trade fairs in Britain, details of export licences, relations between the Export Credits Guarantee Department and individual exporters, reasons for refusal to refer mergers to the Monopolies Commission, and names of complainants about companies, individual transactions between the National Film Finance Corporation and customers, day-to-day matters of the English Tourist Board, details of defence research establishments, details of research contracts, forecasts of price movements, advice from economic planning councils, details of financial assistance to individual companies and individual applicants for industrial development certificates.
Wales: Forestry Commission contracts and advice from the Welsh Council.
Nationalized industries: Day-to-day matters, statistics other than national and matters of commercial confidence.

Weekend volunteers ensured that many toads like these two and frogs could safely cross t[he] road during their spawning migration to Coate water, a lake near Swindon, Wiltshire.

Hint of cut in highest rates of tax

By Our Political Editor

The government seemed yesterday to be signalling its willingness to concede a reduction in the highest rates of income tax.

Mr Harold Lever, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, the minister with special responsibility for small business, stated on television that correction of the highest tax rates was overdue and that reduction was "the number one priority for future action" by the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Again, when questioned on the London Weekend Television programme, *Weekend World*, be said that unless the highest income tax rates were made comparable with EEC competitors the consequences would be damaging.

He did not say when the reduction would take place. But in the Budget battle between the Government, Liberals and Conservatives, enough hints have now been heard that the Government is willing to live with a reduction in top rates of income tax, especially if the change can be hung on the necks of the Conservatives and Liberals.

That concession alone is unlikely to satisfy the Liberals' determination to reduce income tax. Mr John Pardoe, their spokesman on the economy, was still breathing fire yesterday in return to what he perceived as a government threat to call a general election on the issue of the Budget.

Mr Joel Barnett, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, had stated in a speech on Saturday at a Co-operative Party conference that while it was within the power of the Conservatives and minor parties to "destroy the Budget", in the process, "they would *not* destroy *this* Government they would destroy themselves".

Mr Pardoe dismissed that as an idle threat, but maintained that if the Government insisted on an election the Liberals were content to fight it on the issue of reducing taxes.

The point is, however, that the Government might be prepared to be more flexible about what would or would not "destroy the Budget".

Action call on Civil Service pay

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

Leaders of one of the main Civil Service unions are seeking an advance mandate for industrial action if their aspirations on pay are not met next spring.

An emergency resolution from the executive to be put before the Society of Civil and Public Servants' annual conference next month calls for the drafting of a "detailed and costed" plan of selective action. It is intended to support another urging that liaison with other unions should not involve "discussing overall pay ceilings with government, whether through the TUC or otherwise".

Leaders of the 104,000-strong society and the 230,000-strong Civil and Public Services Association are opposing what the society's executive describes as "impositions of arbitrary ceilings, norms or cash limits on public sector pay".

The society's conference at Bournemouth is expected to endorse those opening shots in a campaign for full implementation next year of pay research, the system that fixes Whitehall pay by comparison with industry.

The earlier resolution, which still stands, says civil servants' pay has fallen behind the private sector. It urges a common campaign against wage curbs with other public sector unions.

The Government is reviving pay research, effectively suspended for the last three phases of pay policy, but has said that the conclusions could be overridden by a fourth stage.

The society's emergency resolution was drafted after the union's recent clash with ministers over the Government's refusal to refer the union's claim for rises above the 10 per cent limit to arbitration.

The resolution says that unless an offer in accordance with the findings of the Pay Research Unit is made by the second week of next March, the plan of action should be implemented.

Phase four opposed: A resolution opposing any talks with the Government on a fourth phase of incomes policy was passed at the Wales TUC's annual conference in Llandudno on Saturday (the Press Association reports).

School heads' warning on meal supervision

Mr David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said yesterday that his executive council would give full backing to school heads who decided that pupils must be sent home at midday for lack of qualified supervisors.

In a circular to his members Mr Hart said that the number of teachers prepared to undertake mealtime duties was falling and that there might well be a large-scale withdrawal of teaches from voluntary help.

He called on his members to keep mealtime supervisory policy under constant review and if there are too few volunteers to tell the local education authorities at once that a danger point is being reached.

"If it is then necessary to reduce the number of meals provided, cancel the provision altogether, or close down the school at midday, the association will give full support to any head who applies this policy in order to protect the safety and welfare of pupils in the school premises."

The association is notifying all local authorities of the decision and is seeking a meeting with Mrs Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

Negotiating refusal: The National Association of Schoolmasters Union of Women Teachers said yesterday that in future it would refuse to recognize the Council of Local Education Authorities as a national negotiating body on behalf of local authorities.

Mr Terence Casey, general secretary of the second largest teaching union, said the council was only a talking shop. On its own admission it was impotent and had no power to bind its members to any agreement with the teaching unions.

Mr Casey said that his union would not accept an invitation by the council for talks next month on what constitutes voluntary activities for teachers and what are contractual obligations.

He said Mrs Williams must take steps to reform the Burnham Committee so that a new joint standing committee could be established that would negotiate on both conditions of service and pay.

Press is urged to drop technology 'blindfolds'

The newspaper industry was urged yesterday to take off its "blindfolds" against new printing technology. There should be pressure from everyone to end the charade of unreality and to get the industry on the move, the Guild of British Newspaper Editors was told at its conference at Harrogate by Mr John Barrons, managing director of Westminster Press.

"In our becalmed yet feverish state, we are squandering valuable years in which to improve our methods in an evolutionary and non-disruptive manner," he said.

If the industry continued to approach new electronic systems for production "as if they are unexploded bombs, we destroy all momentum for change and commend ourselves only to industrial archaeologists", be added.

"It is as if we were so shattered by a technical encounter of the first kind, the basic photo composition and web offset developments of the last 15 years, that we have put on blindfolds to avoid the second and third kinds of encounter which, as your children know, are more and more enthralling."

There was a strongly negative approach to the understanding and adoption of equipment not already in use.

Experiments in Britain involving new technology, such as optical character recognition equipment, which scans special typescript to capture the information for computer storage or to drive a typesetting machine, were clearly out of phase with the rate of technical progress in America.

Technical progress had also suffered as a by-product of pay policy. "New machinery is setting off wage claims which submerge any contribution which could be expected from it", be said. "Thus, short-term thinking is cutting across the industry's need for steady, rational modernization.

"The fear must be that one pretext after another will be deployed to dog the movement for change, because it raises some inconvenient questions." There should be no illusions but that the industry's limited technical progress was a blow to realizing economic prospects and a setback for employees.

Mr Barrons said that in some cases, fortunately few in the provincial offices, plant had been paid for and delivered but never used.

"How can we break out tha Catch 22 in which the dustry frustrates its attempts to build economy?" he said. "A s tion must be found, beca the standard of living would all like to see for ne papers cannot come aboo tha present basis."

A solution must be based the recognition of certain f damental points: It was tasy to think that an indust modernization could blocked and yet mighty provements to earnings, re tions in hours, and public vice could be made.

Newspaper workers w misled if they were encoura to believe that there was option to stand still. They misled about their own se rity.

New attitudes were nee from unions and manageme There must be substan measures to maintain prosp and provide new opportuniti

The industry should do job itself. "We have had some experience of exte advice. We do not seem to much effective attention the central points which produce our prosperous sur al. This time, make the wri of the terms of reference own affair. After all, we al can deliver the goods", said.

Earlier in his address Barrons said newspapers be free from the suspicion anybody, be it a governm union, or a league of pro tors, could regulate – approach. The reader sh feel that his views and co butions were welcome and an inconvenience, in con with the interests of pro sional journalists.

Coffin protest b[y] newsagents

A coffin is to be car through Fleet Street today protest march by 1,000 n agents against the disruptio newspaper supplies.

Mr John Shorrock, of I don, Norfolk, president of National Federation of Re Newsagents, said yesterd "Fleet Street is dying on feet, and it is being slo kicked to death by the peo inside it. Newsagents are v badly affected. We are mak this protest as a sign of rage."

Scientists devise death for a hospital pest

Ministry of Agriculture scientists have devised a way to get rid of one of the more serious modern hospital pests, the Pharaoh's ant.

The yellow-brown tropical ant, the size of a pin head, which arrived from Egypt last century, thrives in the warmth of hospitals, restaurants and, increasingly, modern blocks of flats.

Eradication has been difficult, as it often involved toxic pesticides that doctors are reluctant to use near patients.

Now scientists at the Pest Infestation Control Laboratory, Slough, have found a safe method. A mixture of sponge cake, honey and powdered liver is impregnated with a synthetic juvenile hormone that controls the ant's growth

Worker ants take the mixture back to the nests, where the hormone makes the queen ants sterile and halts development of ant larvae.

At Broad Green Hospital, Liverpool, where the first trial was run, 9,000 baits put down over two weeks rapidly reduced the numbers. The ants were eradicated in 18 weeks. Ministry scientists are discussing with Department of Health officials putting the treatment on a commercial basis.

£14m cost of workless in one London district

The cost to society of leaving about four thousand people unemployed in the London district of Tooting is estimated to be £14m a year, more than the annual total spent by the Government on job-creation schemes for the whole of London.

That is one of the conclusions of a disturbing report by the Wandsworth Council for Community Relations, to be issued this week. The contents of the report have been disclosed in *Labour Weekly*, the newspaper of the Labour Party.

The aim of the council's study was to compare the cost of unemployment with that of doing something about it. The report includes accurate calculations of the loss of income-tax revenue and national insurance contributions, and unemployment and social security benefits paid out.

The unemployed in Tooting included 2,122 males and 485 females aged over 24, and 1,587 persons under 24.

The study notes that the calculations included neither the cost of homelessness—many unemployed in Tooting require emergency council accommodation at an annual cost per person of £2,000—nor that of increased crime.

Royal performance: The Prince of Wales trying a skateboard when he visited Inter-Action, a youth group in North London. A film of his skateboarding and other activities is to be shown tonight on the BBC's "Nationwide" programme.

Call for better education of teaching staff

If the quality of student learning is to increase and schools are to be happier places, with teachers enjoying job satisfaction, teacher education must be improved.

That is one of the main conclusions of a Council of Europe report on research and reform in teacher education published today. Mr William Taylor, director of London University's Institute of Education and author of the report, said that improvement could not take place without interested research workers.

He said there were signs of less official and professional concern with educational research. Support for such work had been affected by inflation and public spending cuts.

The number of teachers was declining with the fall in the birth rate, and there were fewer opportunities for employment and promotion in the profession with research work becoming less attractive.

Dispute may affect fuel to Heathrow

A strike by Shell supervisors may affect fuel supplies to Heathrow airport.

The supervisors, members of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, have been on strike for three days as part of a national stoppage by the company's clerical staff over a pay claim. The men organize fuel supplies to the airport and issue instructions on which aircraft need refuelling and by what amount. They also supervise a gravity test on Concorde.

The men have formed a picket line outside the fuel depot in the airport's central area. They are allowing tanker drivers to cross the lines. Mr Tony Mahoney, the union's area supervisor, said yesterday that some flights had been affected, but matters would worsen as fuel ran out.

Gatwick, Luton and Manchester airports are also affected by the dispute.

Mr Mahoney gave a warning that the drivers, members of the Transport and General Workers' Union, would join the dispute if any management staff attempted to carry out the supervisors' work.

Ministers and TUC hold strategy talks

By Our Labour Staff

Senior ministers are likely to meet TUC leaders this week for the first exchanges designed to secure another year of union cooperation on wages.

Union leaders will see the private and preliminary talks as an opportunity to press for expansion as well as for seeking common ground on the anti-inflation policy.

Some of them, notably Mr Mostyn (Moss) Evans, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, have made clear publicly their opposition to a formal phase four deal.

The Government, however, as Mr Albert Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, said last week, remains confident of reaching accord with the TUC General Council.

Mr David Basnett, chairman of the TUC, said last night: "We see unemployment, inflation and making the best use of North Sea oil as forming the major part of our discussions.

Higher safety standards for nuclear effluent sought

By Our Science Editor

More stringent safety standards covering the release of effluents from installations such as the plant planned for the reprocessing of waste nuclear fuel at Windscale, Cumbria, were needed to prevent the atomic energy industry from becoming a public health hazard.

That view was expressed at Oxford yesterday, in an interview, by Professor Edward P. Radford, the international authority on the long-term risks of exposure from small doses of radiation.

Professor Radford, chairman of the American National Academy of Sciences' advisory committee to the United States Government on the effects of ionizing radiations, was concerned that permitted levels of radioactive discharges vary widely between countries, even though the scientific evidence about the dangers was available to them all.

The amount of radioactive discharge regarded as acceptable in reprocessing waste fuel in Britain is 20 times greater than in the United States.

Professor Radford has become the centre of some controversy within the medical and scientific community for raising for public discussion asome of the complicated and sensitive issues about which experts disagree and for which he has been criticized in letters in *The Times*.

He said the arguments could not be settled entirely behind closed doors by experts. The issues were central to public health because they concerned a rise in the incidence of radiation-induced cancers

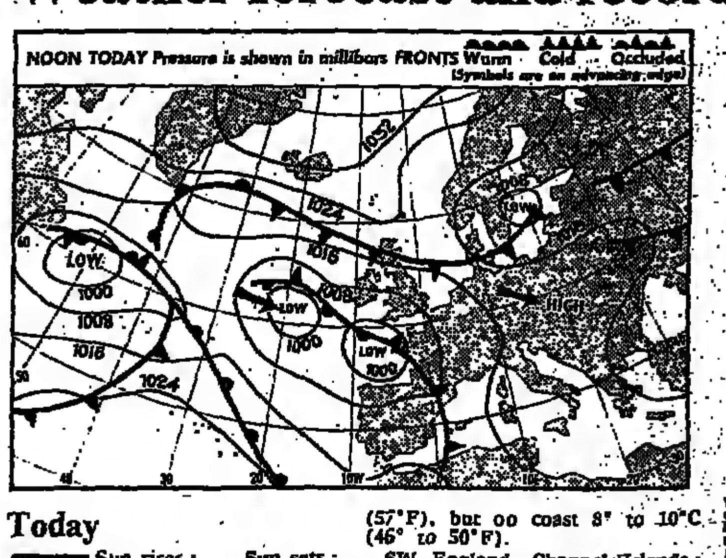
He drew a parallel with the need to assess risks to the population from other potentially dangerous materials such as lead and mercury, and the emission of carbon monoxide from car exhausts.

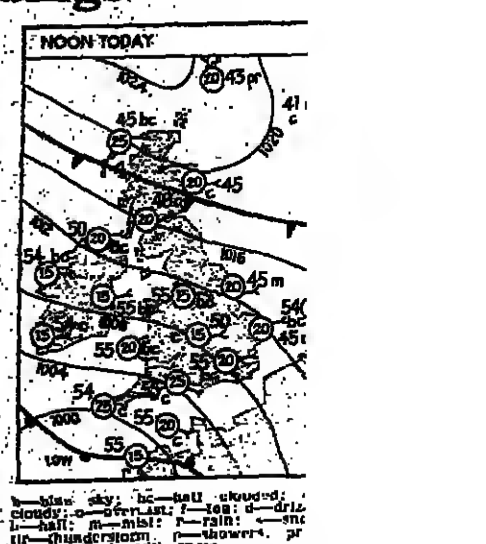
There was perhaps more understanding of damage by radiation than by other substances that had been in use much longer, be said. But the fact that older industries needed cleaning up only indicated the importance of establishing from the outset the most rigorous practices in the young nuclear industry.

Professor Radford suggested that some confusion over radiation safety standards could be traced to the early stages of nuclear power, which explained some of the different approaches between countries. Questions arising then had been examined at an international level by the International Commission for Radiological Protection, a self-appointed body not responsible to governments, but established by the world community of radiologists and radiobiologists.

He thought that later difficulties had arisen because the necessity for keeping medical and scientific assessments from the political process of assessing acceptable risks had not been seen.

Weather forecast and recordings





b—blue sky; bc—half clouded; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; pr—periodical rain with snow.

Today

Sun rises: 5.47 am — Sun sets: 8.12 pm
Moon sets: 6.46 am — Moon rises: 9.56 pm
Last quarter: April 29.
Lighting up: 8.42 pm to 5.15 am.
High water: London Bridge, 3.15 am, 7.5m (24.6ft); 3.39 pm, 7.7m (25.1ft). Avonmouth, 8.58 am, 13.6m (44.6ft); 9.19 pm, 13.7m (44.9ft). Dover, 12.19 am, 6.8m (22.2ft); 12.39 pm, 6.6m (21.8ft). Hull, 7.48 am, 7.4m (24.2ft); 8.2 pm, 7.5m (24.5ft). Liverpool, 12.34 am, 9.5m (31.2ft); 12.52 pm, 9.6m (31.4ft).

A dry E airstream will cover most parts, but troughs of low pressure will affect central Scotland and SW England.

Forecasts from 6 am to midnight:

London, Midlands, SE, Central S and central N England: Dry, sunny intervals after clearance of early cloud; wind SE, fresh; max temp 16° or 17°C (61° or 63°F).

East Anglia, E and NE England: Mostly dry, coastal fog patches, sunny intervals inland; wind SE, fresh; max temp 14°C (57°F), but on coast 8° to 10°C (46° to 50°F).

SW England, Channel Islands: Rather cloudy, mainly dry at first, rain in places later; wind SE, backing E, fresh; max temp 13° or 14°C (55° or 57°F).

Lake District, NW England, Wales, SW Scotland, N Ireland, Isle of Man: Dry, sunny intervals; wind SE, fresh; max temp 16° or 17°C (61° or 63°F).

Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee: Cloudy, some hill and coast fog, drizzle on hills; wind SE, fresh; max temp 8° to 10°C (46° to 50°F).

Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE and NW Scotland: Cloud clearing to give sunny intervals, mostly dry; wind E, fresh; max temp 7° or 8°C (45° or 46°F).

Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll: Rather cloudy, hill fog and drizzle; wind SE, fresh; max temp 10° to 12°C (50° to 54°F).

Orkney, Shetlands: Sunny intervals, isolated showers, wintry later; wind NE, moderate or fresh; max temp 7°C (45°F).

Sea passages: S North Sea: Wind E, moderate or fresh; sea moderate.

Strait of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind E or SE, fresh, locally strong; sea moderate or rough.

St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind E or SE, fresh or strong; sea moderate or rough.

Saturday

London: Temp: max, 7 am to 7 pm, 14°C (57°F); min, 7 pm to 7 pm, 9°C (48°F). Humidity, 7 pm, 62 per cent. Rain, 24 hr to 7 pm, 0.01in. Sun, 24 hr to 7 pm, nil. Barometer, mean sea level, 7 pm, 1,021.4 millibars, steady.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max, 7 am to 7 pm, 15°C (59°F); min, 7 pm to 7 am, 7°C (45°F). Humidity, 7 pm, 47 per cent. Rain, 24 hr to 7 pm, nil. Sun, 24 hours to 7 pm, 10.5 hours. Barometer, mean sea level, 7 pm, 1,0[illegible] millibars, falling.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	s	16	61	Cologne	f	15	59	London	s	13	55	Oslo	c	8	46
Amsterdam	s	14	57	Copenhgn	s	13	55	Luxembrg	f	14	57	Paris	f	17	63
Athens	f	16	61	Funchal	s	18	64	Madrid	s	19	66	Reykjavik	s	7	45
Barcelona	s	[illegible]	[illegible]	Geneva	s	14	57	Majorca	s	18	64	Rome	s	19	66
Beirut	f	16	61	Gibraltar	c	17	63	Malta	f	16	61	Stockholm	s	15	59
Berlin	s	16	61	Guernsey	s	13	55	Miami	c	26	79	Tel Aviv	s	27	81
Bermuda	s	21	70	Helsinki	c	6	43	Montreal	s	10	50	Toronto	s	9	48
Biarritz	s	18	64	Innsbruck	s	15	59	Moscow	s	8	46	Vancouver	c	10	50
Bordeaux	f	12	54	Jersey	s	15	59	Munich	f	14	57	Venice	s	17	63
Brussels	s	16	61	L Palmas	s	21	70	Naples	f	18	61	[illegible]	f	16	61
Budapest	f	16	61	Lisbon	f	18	64	New York	s	15	59	Warsaw	f	18	64
Chicago	c	9	48	Locarno	r	11	52	Nice	s	16	61	Zurich	s	12	54

Overseas selling prices
Austria, Sch 18; Belgium, Bfr [illegible]; Canaries, Pes 60; Denmark, Dkr [illegible]; Finland, Fmk 3.25; France, Fr[illegible]; Germany, DM 2.00; Greece, Dr [illegible]; Holland, Dfl 2.00; Hongkong, [illegible] 5.00; Italy, Lire 700; Luxembourg, Lf 22; Madeira, Esc 22.50; Malta, [illegible]; Norway, Kr 4.50; Portugal, Esc [illegible]; Spain, Pes 60; Sweden, Skr [illegible]; Switzerland, Sfr 2.30; USA/Can $1.00; Yugoslavia, Din 24.

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The Priority of Priorities

Written by
Rosemary Dawson-Shepherd,
a spastic.

is to save thousands of babies from needless handicap

What's Britain got that France, Sweden, Finland & Japan haven't?

More dead & handicapped babies!

Sad, but true. What is worse, it's avoidable.

You see, the statistics weren't always stacked against us. In 1960 the French infant death rate was [illegible]2% higher than ours, and we were on par with Finland. But, by 1972 the French rate was 10% lower and the Finnish rate was 30% lower.

So what did France and Finland do that we didn't? They didn't accept a second rate maternity service. The amazing drop in infant deaths which resulted was accompanied by an increase in the numbers of babies born free of handicap.

Our Government is aware of what can be achieved. These statistics all come from their own publications. Yet, still, they refuse to provide us with a first class maternity service. *So every year about [illegible]8,000 babies are damaged before, during or immediately after birth – many will be seriously handicapped for life. And [illegible]0% of the babies born spastic could have been born free of handicap.*

We, as a nation, need to practise what we preach: Prevention is better than cure. We want to save lives; save babies from needless handicap. This is what we call **THE PRIORITY OF PRIORITIES.**

The first priority is to apply the results of research and good medical practise throughout the National Health Service and private medicine. The second priority is to finance further research to ensure ultimately that all our babies are born free of handicap.

WHY MORE RESEARCH IS URGENTLY REQUIRED

1 Why does the incidence of infant death and handicap differ from area to area? Research is urgently required into this problem.

2 More research must be undertaken into the production of less expensive delivery room equipment, and into defects of staff training.

3 More research is needed into the problems of how, why and where cerebral palsy occurs.

4 More research needs to be carried out in the field of human genetics.

5 More research is needed into the causes of prematurity and low birth-weight in babies, as such babies are always at risk.

6 More research is needed into the management and causes of oxygen deprivation, which potentially is one of the most crippling hazards of childbirth.

7 More research is needed into the complex factors involved in maternal malnutrition.

8 More research is required into the treatment, education and quality of life of spastic people.

The wealth of our nation is the health of our babies. If Government cannot, or will not, finance the necessary research, then we must do everything possible to see that this vital work is carried out. The Spastics Society appeals to you to give generously. But it is not only your money that we ask for, but your will and determination. Together we can begin to change the face of handicap.

British babies can, and must have as good a start in life as babies born in France, Sweden, Finland and Japan.

Open up your purse and pick up your pen.

To: The Spastics Society, 12 Park Crescent, London W1N 4EQ
I support your 'Save-A-Baby' campaign by sending you my donation of £......
(cash/postal order/cheque/giro No. 5025656). Please send cash by registered mail and cross postal orders and cheques.
☐ *Tick if receipt required.*

Name ______
Address ______

TT 29 24 4

Also, I am interested in having more information on your 'Save-A-Baby' campaign. *Tick box if required.* ☐

save a baby
from being born spastic

The Spastics Society

This campaign is supported by The Scottish Council for Spastics.

HOME NEWS

Tories must maintain majority in safest of safe seats if confidence is not to suffer

Epsom's likely winner, with only the margin in doubt

By Robert Parker

Epsom and Ewell is not exactly a rotten borough, but it perhaps offers the Conservative candidate a better chance of being elected than any other.

Since the Reform Act of 1832, it has returned Conservative MPs with thumping majorities. From its extremities of outer London suburbia to Surrey stockbroker belt, the constituency looks and sounds what it is: a Tory heartland.

It seems unlikely, therefore, that anyone would get worked up by the by-election being held as a result of the elevation to the peerage of Sir Peter Rawlinson, QC, the local MP for 22 years.

In fact the election is being fought with surprising vigour by the three main parties. The result is not in doubt; the Conservative candidate is bound to win. But with a general election not far away, the size of his majority will be of more than passing importance.

In the last election, Sir Peter won by a 16,000 majority and took 55 per cent of the vote. Any fall would reflect badly on the Conservatives. They have little to gain and much to lose.

Labour, on the other hand, have a lot to gain. If they can increase their vote, which they think they can, they might damp Tory confidence generally and enhance what they perceive as growing support for the Labour Party throughout the country.

For the Liberals, who took a quarter of the vote in 1974, the by-election may be critical. The collapse of Liberal support in several recent by-elections must stop in Epsom and Ewell if party morale is to be maintained.

An analysis of voting in the past six general elections shows that all three parties had enjoyed fairly solid support. The Conservative share of the vote has ranged between 54 and 62 per cent, Liberal 17 to 26 per cent and Labour 17 to 22 per cent.

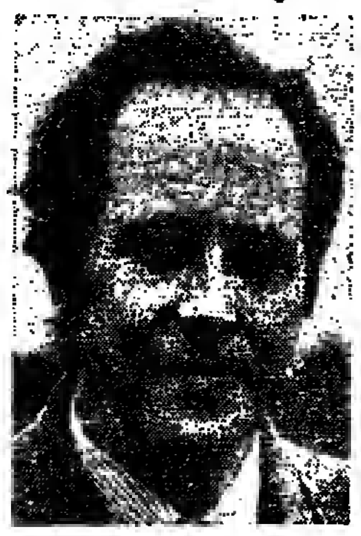
The relatively unvolatile electorate of 81,000, larger than average, is now being ardently wooed.

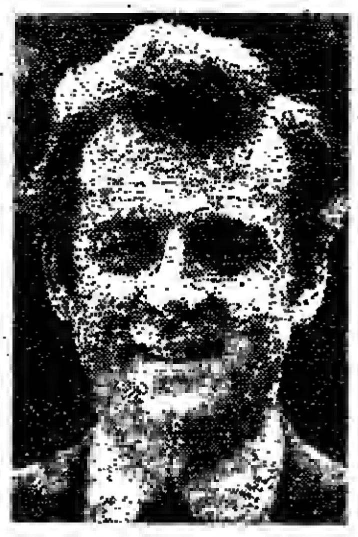
Mr Tony Mooney, the Labour candidate, thinks he has several things in his favour. He has been active in the constituency since he was adopted 18 months ago and argues that Sir Peter had a large personal following that will not necessarily support the Tory candidate, Mr Archibald Hamilton. Sir Peter, he says, was less active in his last few years as MP and people resented that.

Mr Mooney, a science teacher, says his canvass returns indicate a lack of enthusiasm for Mrs Margaret Thatcher from some traditional Conservative voters, particularly women. Often it is accompanied by qualified praise for Labour under Mr James Callaghan for doing a reasonable job in difficult circumstances.

"I really feel we may give the Tories a shock", he said. "I'm not saying we shall win, but what happens here could have an important effect nationally".

The Liberal candidate, Mr Michael Anderson, a personnel manager with Shell, is being


Mr Hamilton: Seen as archetypal Tory.


Mr Mooney: "Important effect nationally."


Mr Anderson: Only truly local candidate.

pushed as the only truly local candidate. He stoutly defends the Lib-Lab pact, saying it has brought positive achievements as well as improvements in the style of government, and thinks that the Labour candidate might well lose his deposit.

The Liberals will probably be happy if they can keep a fifth of the vote. If they get any more they will be delighted.

Mr Hamilton, described by the Liberals as "an archetypal Tory—Eton, the Guards and so on", thinks the Liberals might be crushed. He is confident of the support of many Conservatives who voted Liberal last time and says committed Liberals may abstain because of a dislike of the pact with Labour.

One of Mr Hamilton's main concerns is persuading his supporters of the importance of voting. Mrs Thatcher spent much of Friday in the constituency, an indication of the importance attached to a good result.

There are two other candidates. Mr Jonathan King, a songwriter and pop singer who now owns a record company, is standing as a "Royalist". If elected, he will stand down at the general election, having had "a good shout for the people of Epsom in the meantime."

His campaign headquarters is a white convertible Rolls-Royce Corniche, in which he drives round addressing anyone who will listen. Like Mr Mooney, he is making an issue of the lack of facilities for young people.

The fifth candidate is Mr James Sawyer, of the National Front. The Front has been active, mainly by putting out leaflets, but this is not a seat where it is likely to get much response. As Mr John Miller, the Liberal campaign manager, said: "The only race problem in Epsom is who is going to win the Derby."

The likely outcome seems to be a comfortable Conservative victory on a reduced poll, with the Liberals falling well back, perhaps disastrously, and Labour also losing a few points.

The nature of the constituency with 73 per cent of homes owner-occupied and only 12 per cent council tenants, offers Labour little scope of increasing their share of the vote.

Scottish Labour Party not to contest Hamilton poll

From Alan Hamilton
Edinburgh

The breakaway Scottish Labour Party, after a disastrous showing at the Glasgow, Garscadden, by-election, has decided not to fight the forthcoming by-election at Hamilton, the industrial constituency to the south of Glasgow left vacant by the death of its Labour MP, Mr Alexander Wilson.

After a weekend conference to discuss the party's financial and political difficulties its leader, Mr James Sillars, MP for Ayrshire, South, said it would be changing its strategy and would concentrate on 10 areas of Scotland it saw as potential growth points.

Faced with a serious shortage of funds and little evidence of growing popular support, it is unlikely that the party would be able to field a candidate in all 10, either in the forthcoming local council elections or in a future general election.

The areas listed by Mr Sillars are Ayrshire, Aberdeen, Edinburgh, Clydebank, Glasgow (Gorbals), Renfrewshire, part of Fife, Morayshire, Nairn and Tain (Ross and Cromarty). The party says that there is well defined support in all of them.

Tory lawyers propose a senate as new upper House

By a Staff Reporter

The House of Lords should be replaced by an elected "senate" with 300 members drawn from 100 constituencies, a report on reform of the Lords drawn up by a committee of the Society of Conservative Lawyers states.

The report, released yesterday, says that a second Chamber is an essential feature of Britain's constitution and provides a check against the excesses of minority governments. But if a second Chamber is to be effective it must have greater powers than the Lords, and those could not be given to an hereditary body.

The new Chamber would be elected by proportional representation. Its powers would include the amendment or rejection of all Bills from the Commons, and in the event of deadlock between the two Chambers the dispute would be settled by the aggregated votes of the two houses.

The Lords of Appeal when sitting in their judicial capacity should continue to be referred to as the House of Lords. The proposals would not be introduced without the clear approval of the electorate in a referendum.

Call for more handicap prevention

By a Staff Reporter

An average of six spastic children are born in Britain every day, although modern medical knowledge could cut that figure by almost half, the Spastic Society said at a rally in Trafalgar Square yesterday to launch its "Save a Baby" campaign.

A seven-point resolution was adopted calling for: the establishment of a national plan for handicap prevention; abandonment of proposed cuts in maternity services; closure of inefficient maternity units; first-class care services for newly born children; a national campaign of health education for women; new research into the causes of handicaps; and investigation of effective preventive measures.

A copy of the resolution was handed in at 10 Downing Street.

Speakers at the rally included Mr Jack Ashley, Labour MP for Stoke-on-Trent, South; Miss Joan Turner, the actress; and Mr David Jacobs, vice-president of the Stars Organization for Spastics.

Mr James Loring, director of the Spastics Society, said the organization was pressing for a further £2m to be spent on research into handicap prevention; it would also launch an advertising campaign urging the Government to support improved health education programmes.


Some of the cast of "Oliver", at the Albery Theatre on their way to the Spastics Society rally yesterday.

The society believes that considerable economic benefits would derive from a cut in the spastic birthrate, for it is estimated that caring for one handicapped person from the age of 16 to that of 65 costs up to £250,000. There are about 33,000 severely handicapped children in Britain, and a further 100,000 moderately handicapped.

At the rally, attended by 1,500 people, Britain's poor record in caring for pregnant women and newly born children was strongly criticized. In 1960 the rates of infant mortality in England and Wales and in Finland were the same, but by 1972 the Finnish rate was nearly a third lower.

The Government was urged to adopt a similar approach to that of the French, who have set up a programme to reduce the numbers of babies born dead or damaged. Measures taken include increasing staff and equipment at hospital obstetric departments; enforcing minimum standards of resuscitation of the newly born; and establishing 20 new units to provide intensive care of babies at risk.

Mr Loring criticized the growing trend for children to be born at home. Deliveries should take place at hospitals, where there were proper emergency facilities, he said.

Police chiefs criticize excess fare proposals

Police chiefs have criticized proposed on-the-spot excess charges for fare evaders on buses. A new clause added to the Transport Bill, now before Parliament, would give bus operators the right to levy immediate excess fares of up to five times the ordinary charge on evaders.

"A court appearance and heavy fine may have a more salutary effect as a deterrent than the proposed on-the-spot fine, with its attendant problems of enforcement", Mr Brian Morrissey, general secretary of the Association of Chief Police Officers of England, Wales and Northern Ireland, said yesterday.

Chief constables fear their men might be involved in fights with drunken fare evaders in what is essentially a civil dispute. They might be seen by the public as the "heavies" enforcing a law to ensure that a commercial undertaking remained viable, or at least collected its dues.

The new clause is aimed at people who travel beyond the distance paid for without reasonable excuse.

In a letter to the Home Office the police chiefs say the provisions seem to contravene the well established principle that a prosecutor should not profit from any type of prosecution or penalty imposed.

They are also concerned that elderly people and strangers might be confused by an on-the-spot levy system. The police chiefs added: "It is considered that fare evasion or an act of dishonesty is already catered for in the Public Service Vehicles Regulations, 1936".

Although police involvement in the proposed on-the-spot levy has been excluded, the chief constables believe there might be calls on police late at night when bus crews have failed to collect fares from drunken passengers. They feel that that could lead to assaults.

The Confederation of British Road Passenger Transport, which was responsible for drafting the new clause, said yesterday that the excess charges were not fines on the spot and it was misleading to refer to them as such.

Council 'over-protective' in banning early films

By Kenneth Gosling

Mr James Ferman, secretary of the British Board of Film Censors, has adjudicated on the suitability or otherwise for showing at an international congress in Brighton next month of a group of films made between 1900 and 1906.

After viewing the films, which gave titles like *The Beggar's Deceit* and *Ladies' Skirts Nailed to a Fence*, he has decided that Brighton is being over-protective. He pronounced judgment after a 90-minute session in a Soho viewing theatre.

Brighton's health and environment committee had objected that the films had not been given certificates for public exhibition. In the view of the British Film Institute the congress represents a rare opportunity for enthusiasts to see films of the period in such quantity.

The stalemate is expected to be resolved after Mr Ferman sends the committee a letter to reassure them about the samples he was shown.

"Two or three of them", Mr Ferman said, "have the kind of nude or semi-nude scenes in long shot which I would award an 'A' certificate. The rest are all 'U'."

The films Mr Ferman referred to were shown at smoking concerts and show ladies of ample build disporting themselves in a pool—the kind once seen on Brighton Pier in "What the Butler Saw" machines.

For the most part the films to be selected for showing at Brighton to 100 film archivists from all over the world will be notable for the technical developments they represent.

There is little likelihood that any of them would bring so much as a blush to a lady's cheek in 1978, let alone corrupt the youth of Brighton.

Latest wills

Mr Charles William Newnham, of West Hoathly, West Sussex, left £74,775 net. He left all his property equally between the Salvation Army, Dr Barnardo's, the Abbeyfield Homes for the Aged, East Grinstead, and Sackville College, East Grinstead.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid; tax not disclosed):

Blackborow, Mr William Frederick, of Llandudno .. £150,768

Cockrem, Mr John Hewett, of Ivybridge, Devon .. £151,036

Greenwell, Mr Whitfield Ava Aynsley, of Shermanbury, West Sussex £500,292

Holtoo-Sams, Mrs Cyrene Marie, of Havant £293,489

Kessler, Mr William Duncan Henry, of Chelsea, barrister £223,105

Youngman, Mr Harold Morley, of Woodbridge £360,981

Aston Martin racing car makes £20,000

Veteran and vintage cars and other vehicles of interest were sold by Sotheby's at Donington Park, Derbyshire, on Saturday. The sale, which included such different items as penny-farthing bicycles, Rolls-Royces, fire engines and racing cars, made a total of £292,555.

The top price was £20,000, paid for the last factory-built Aston Martin team racing car, the Project DP 215, which was the Philip Hill/Lucien Bianchi Le Mans car of 1963. It went to a buyer from Worcestershire, who also paid £11,000 for a 1923 Bentley which was recently discovered in a stable, where it had been for more than 30 years.

The Bentley Blue Label long-chassis three-litre open tourer originally belonged to a young officer of the West Sussex Regiment who was so badly wounded in the First World War that he left hospital only in 1923. The car was the first complete vintage Bentley to come to light for many years.

A 1923 Springfield, Massachusetts, Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost which was sent from America for the sale made £18,500.

Still-life record: A sale of nineteenth and twentieth-century paintings, drawings, watercolours and sculpture last Friday in New York by Sotheby Parke Bernet realized £1,441,542 ($2,710,000).

Among the top prices were £140,957 ($265,000) for a portrait of Archbishop William Henry Elder, by Thomas Eakin, and £103,723 ($195,000) for "Crossing the Divide" by Henry F. Farny. A still-life of strawberries and cream, by Raphaelle Peale, made £90,425 ($170,000).

Press Council rejects 'prima facie right of reply'

A proposition that a contentious article gives an aggrieved complainant a prima facie right of reply has been rejected by the Press Council.

Mrs W. Crum Ewing, of Vine Avenue, Sevenoaks, Kent, complained that she had been refused the opportunity to reply after *The Sunday Times* in an article referred to "a 'respectable' publishing project that is not what it seems". She was described as assistant to the editor-in-chief.

The article commented that the project's work resembled many other respectable academic texts, but inquiries showed its books were originated, and publication costs paid entirely, by the Foundation for the Study of Plural Societies, which had been set up by apologists for apartheid.

Mrs Crum Ewing asked the editor for permission to comment and complained that an extract from an advertising statement had been taken out of context to create a totally inaccurate conclusion.

The Sunday Times said she had not claimed any inaccuracy or unfair bias at first and there seemed no point in publishing her letters. Her later accusation of distortion did not stand up to examination.

The Press Council's adjudication was:—

The purpose of *The Sunday Times* in publishing this article was to express forcefully their opinion, based on inquiry, that this publication was propaganda planned to bolster apartheid. Mrs Crum Ewing, who was assistant to the editor-in-chief and the British member of the editorial team, did not challenge the main theme of the article, but claimed that a quotation had been taken out of context and that "a contentious article entitles the one aggrieved by it to a right of reply".

The Press Council's opinion is that when the complainant has been personally attacked or criticized an opportunity to reply should be given.

In this case *The Sunday Times* was entitled to challenge the integrity of the publication and did not go beyond allowable comment on Mrs Crum Ewing's role in it. The complaint against *The Sunday Times* is rejected.

May Day closing

The Natural History Museum, South Kensington, and its branch at Tring, Hertfordshire, will be closed on Monday, May 1. Kew Gardens and Wakehurst Place, at Ardingly, West Sussex, will also be closed on May Day.

Stress centre appeal

The Lord Mayor of Sheffield, Councillor Mrs Winifred Golding, is to launch a £100,000 appeal today to buy and maintain the Lawton Tonge Centre in the city, which treats and studies people under stress.

WEST EUROPE

British plan for rights clause in EEC aid pacts is opposed

By Roger Berthoud

Diplomatic soundings suggest that some of Britain's EEC partners and many of the developing countries concerned will strongly contest the British Government's aim to insert a human rights clause into the new Lomé convention with 53 African, Caribbean and Pacific states.

The French Government in particular is known to be bitterly opposed to the British plan, which would enable the Nine to cut off EEC funds to any Lomé member Convention grossly infringing human rights. The Dutch, however, are understood to be broadly sympathetic.

Some Lomé countries have already indicated that they feel very strongly that the British plan is offensive and neo-colonialist. They have inquired bitterly whether it would be reciprocal, and have talked of double standards with regard to the economic links between EEC states and South Africa.

With evidence of the horror of President Idi Amin's regime emerging daily, the Nine agreed last June on the so-called Uganda guidelines. These were designed to ensure "that any assistance given by the Community to Uganda does not in any way have as its effect a reinforcement or prolongation of the denial of basic human rights to its people".

The aim, hard to achieve in practice, was to distinguish between aid for the people and aid for the regime. In the event, Uganda is understood to have received 6,470,000 European units of account (about £4,334,900) last year. Of this, just under half was in project aid, the rest being due under the "Stabex" scheme to compensate for a fall in export receipts for tea and cotton.

These are small sums in relation to the 1,210m units of account committed to all Lomé recipients — mainly former French and British colonies — between the signing of the convention in 1975 and the end of last year. But in Mr Judd's view, they are still too big.

Negotiations for a new convention open in July. What Dr David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, and he envisage is "something in the preamble spelling out a general commitment that this is not just a dehydrated form of economic relationship, but is about co-operation for the development of human beings", Mr Judd said.

Then there would be an operational clause which, recognizing this commitment, enabled selective action to be taken if need be.

"We are not suggesting that there should be a detailed check list of conditions to be fulfilled. We are saying there should be a lever so that something meaningful can be done."

Mr Judd believes it is a kind of inverted paternalism not to be ready to talk honestly about worries. He sees a distinction between general trade with South Africa and a scheme designed to further emancipation and human development in countries which have had more than their share of deprivation. But these views are not likely to be widely echoed.

Mass rally crowns triumph fo Carrillo lin

From Harry Debelius
Madrid, April 23

A crowd of 30,000 pe cheered Señor Santiago rillo, the leading exponen Eurocommunism, in a pac bullring in a working c neighbourhood of Mac today at a rally which brou to a climax the first legal c gress of the Spanish C munist Party for 46 years.

Señor Carrillo was reelec secretary-general of the pa late last night, the 108th an versary of the birth of Len The previous day his propo to drop the word "Leninis from the official description his party had been approv by nearly two thirds of t 1,500 delegates attending t four-day congress here. His l of candidates for the Centr Committee was elected too.

Señora Dolores Ibarruri, t aged "La Pasionaria" of Ci War days, was reelected pre dent of the party, despite t fact that she represents the c pro-Moscow line rather th the independent Euroco munist line of the secreta general.

Señor Carrillo told the ce brating crowd at the Vis Alegre bullring that Profess Ramon Tamames, a promine Eurocommunist, would be t party's candidate for mayor the coming municipal electio in Madrid. Professor Tamam delivered a lively harangue which he promised to put end to "corruption".

Señora Ibarruri, dressed black as usual, evoked del ious chants of "Dolor Dolores, Dolores" when s accepted a gift of a bouquet red carnations and led t crowd in singing the co munist anthem, the "Inter tionale".

All around the bullri young men and women w selling left-wing propagan items, ranging from books magazines to posters and c bearing the hammer-and-sic emblem.

'Verbal terrorism' seen as threat to Portugal

From Our Correspondent
Lisbon, April 23

Portugal's Council of the Revolution, in a communiqué this weekend, strongly criticizes the present continuous attacks on the Government.

The council, established in 1975, is an advisory body to the President and a guarantee that the constitution shall be observed. Its communiqué, entitled "The building of democracy and the present political situation", breaks a year's silence.

It emphasizes the growing crisis in Portugal and states that the recent government austerity measures have seriously affected the lower middle-class sectors of trade and industry.

"Certain political and social forces.. organize campaigns against the ruling bodies and political and military personalities, and thus against the constitution", it complains. Attacks against the President and the Government have been made recently in the Portuguese press.

The council's statement mentions "verbal terrorism, that is, declarations of extraordinary verbal violence". These he council deplores.

Referring to the incidents in the Azores when Dr Almeida Santos, the Deputy Prime Minister, was manhandled by a hostile crowd, the council states that "this was shocking". It promises "energetic corrective measures." It also gives a warning against "attempts to destroy the democratic state and the Portuguese people."

The breaking of he council's long silence is taken to indicate the serious view that it takes of Portugal.

The economic situation is drastic and there is social unrest and protest against the Government austerity measures. There is a serious split in the Social Democratic Party, and a new attempt to rail ysplinter left-wing groups into an active popular power movement.

Dr Mario Soares, the Prime Minister, told a Socialist rally in Povoa de Varzim this weekend that attacks on his Government were "a real plot against true democracy."

Stolen Flemish paintings are found unharme

Florence, April 23.—

paintings by Flemish mast including "The Three Grace by Rubens, were recovered damaged early today. Th men were charged with th and conspiracy.

The police said that they arrested Franco Mefiti, a 29, and Giovanni Manfr aged 31, and accused them having carried out the theft third man, Franco Brogi, a 37, a lawyer, in tha boot whose car the paintings w said to have been found, also arrested and accused having commissioned the th He denied having had anyth to do with it.

On Friday, the day of theft, a young man, identi later as Signor Mefiti, spoken in a bar about a " theft" that had been car out in the Pitti Palace, police said. Signor Manfr was seen with him. The po searched the flats of both found clues leading eventu to the discovery.—Reuter.

Dervish dies in spring ritual

Belgrade, April 23.—A young dervish accidentally killed himself with a knife during a spring ritual in a village near Prizren in southern Yugoslavia.

The police said that Mr Zuber Krasnici, who was 22, had cut his jugular vein while attempting to stab his cheeks with a knife during a trance. Sect members at first hid his body.—AP.

Paris crime rate worries M Chira

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, April 23

M Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader and Mayor of Paris, is concerned about the growing lack of security in the capital, and the spectacular increase in crime there in the past few years. But he has joined battle with the Minister of the Interior over the city's contribution to the cost of the Paris police.

The paradox is only apparent. M Chirac insists that the city's contribution must really be used to increase the security of Parisians, and not, as he says, to meet the cost of guarding foreign embassies, or providing police escorts for visiting dignitaries.

He has announced, as a gesture of protest, that he will not vote for the budget of the interior next autumn, if it does not contain a reinforcement of the Paris police and the gendarmerie.

He told a press conference a couple of days ago: "I am struck by the extent of insecurity in the capital. This calls for a substantial reinforcement of the police. Without wishing to dramatize, it is no exaggeration to say that Parisians are increasingly afraid of being assaulted in the streets, in the Métro, in parks and open spaces, and both by night and by day in underground car parks. They are also afraid of thefts, which are on the increase".

Yet the Paris police had 13,308 uniformed men in 1977, compared with 13,469 in 1973, but the cost to the city of supporting the force had risen by 61 per cent.

The mayor's quarrel is that Paris this year will have to pay the state 292m francs (£34m) towards the upkeep of the police, or 130 francs for each inhabitant. This is 40 times more than Marseilles or Lyons in proportion to population. "This system is incoherent and unjust", he said.

But the prefect of police has served upon the city a bill for 292m francs notwithstanding the mayor's objections. A new distribution of the financial burden of the police between the city and the state could not be contemplated before next January, he said.

"While it is true that Paris pays more than other cities for the police, it pays less for the fire brigade, cultural affairs, and public transport," which in the big provincial centres were entirely financed by those cities.

M Chirac told the press: "The city is ready to make necessary financial effort if state gives the example. have an excellent police fo But it works in unbelieva conditions. It is not a ma of reform, but of means an strengths. The city is not try to economize on the securit its inhabitants. It will have shoulder additional burden improve it. But it does want to be saddled with c which are not its responsibili

He went on: "There are 600 uniformed police to pro 2,300,000 Parisians at night; demand 3,000." He had alw insisted on the need for u police on the beat, permane attached to a district. "Th are 224 districts in the cap and we need 2,000 more to protect them."

The mayor put his finger sore spot. Since the unres May and June, 1968, emphasis of the Ministry of Interior and the police aut ties has been on maintai order the the expense of security of the individual. number of policemen on beat has been reduced. police unions, supported public opinion, have demanded a redeployment the force.

Works kept by Picasso to go on world tour

Copenhagen, April 23.—The heirs of the late Pablo Picasso have chosen Denmark's Louisiana Museum of Modern Art for the first public showing and for the organization of a subsequent international tour of paintings, sketches and sculptures discovered after Picasso's death five years ago, it was learnt here today.

Señor Claude Picasso, aged 3-, the artist's son, told the Copenhagen newspaper *Politiken* in an interview in Paris that he and the other heirs had accepted an offer from Mr Knud Jensen, founder and artistic director of the Louisiana, to organize a touring exhibition to be called "Picasso's Picassos".

According to the interview the first show will open at Louisiana, at Humlebaek about 20 miles north of Copenhagen, in the autumn of 1979.—AP.

Canary Islands fishing cre may be in Polisario hands

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, April 23

The eight-man crew of a Canary Islands fishing vessel was believed to be in the hands of the Saharan Liberation Front (Polisario) today. Fishermen from another vessel found the trawler, the Las Palomas, adrift and unmanned, a mile and a half off the coast of the former Spanish Sahara.

The boat had been abandoned shortly before it was discovered last Friday, and there was no sign of any kind of struggle, according to those who found it. Its holds were full of freshly caught fish.

The Polisario has stated several times that it considers the waters off the coast of the Western Sahara to be part of the territory of the Saharan nation and will take action to support its claim.

The Polisario is engaged in a guerrilla war against Morocco and Mauritania, which been trying since S withdrew from the terr early in 1976 to subdue inhabitants of the vast w land. In the past, Spanish ermen taken into custody Saharan guerrillas have released unharmed.

The incident gained in sig ficance because it occur during the first official visit Señor Adolfo Suárez, Spanish Prime Minister, to Canaries. In Las Palmas, Grand Canary Island morning Señor Suárez local military commanders Lieutenant-General Man Gutiérrez Mellado, the dep Prime Minister for Defence.

The Prime Minister arri in the Canary Islands Thursday, on a visit that evidently intended to reass islanders of support from M rid in the face of terror and underdevelopment.

هكذا منه الأصل

Old-style corruption begins to taint new regime in Saigon

From Peter Hazelhurst
Laem Sing refugee camp, south-east Thailand
April 23

On a hot, sultry afternoon in Ho Chi Minh City last month, Mrs Nguyeo Thi Hoa, daughter of a wealthy Chinese jeweller, stepped into the shadows of a lonely alley to keep a secret rendevous with a minor bureaucrat from Hanoi.

Elsewhere in the city, formerly known as Saigon, an army of communist cadres was moving through the streets to confiscate the merchandise of all but the smallest of shopkeepers.

Quickly Mrs Hoa shoved a roll of banknotes into the hands of the waiting communist bureaucrat. In return she received a bundle of travel documents—the only means of escape out of Ho Chi Minh City today.

After making a precarious journey across the Gulf of Siam in a small boat Mrs Hoa and 45 other Vietnamese refugees—both rich and poor—sailed into the Laem Sing refugee camp in Thailand four days ago to provide the latest picture of life in South Vietnam.

They say that after three years of procrastination the victorious communists finally began to implemeot their policy of state ownership on March 23. "Communist cadres moved into shops to make an inveotory of all merchandise in all business concerns except small restaurants and barber shops", Mrs Hoa explains. Refugees from other towns in South Vietnam say that shopkeepers were forced to hand their merchandise over to the state last month.

But the stories of the latest group of refugees suggest that Hanoi's strict programme of radical socialism is slowly beiog undermined by the bane of the former regime in Saigon—bribery, corruptioo and a flourishing black market.

Travel documents can be obtained at a price and prisooers cao buy they way out of Jail with bribes of gold.

Mrs Hoa says: "Corruptinn is worse now than it was three years ago. The price of forged travel documents has now dropped to $10 per persoo. I met a bureaucrat oo a street alley and paid $100 to obtain travel documents for myself and four members of the family. This allowed us to travel to Phu Quoc island where we had arranged for a boat to pick us up."

While rice and other food is rationed—members of the former upper and middle class only receive 4lb of rice each a month—most commodities can be obtained at high prices on a flourishing black market.

Rice can be obtained in large quantities at 54p a lb — ten times the official rate—on the black market in Saigon. In smaller towns the black market rate of rice varies between three and four times the official rate.

Some 400 refugees have arrived in this camp during the past mooth and many more are expected to make the hazardous trip across the Gulf of Siam in the near future. An official said: "We expect a greater influx because of good weather conditions and the undeniable fact that the policy of state ownership will encourage a new exodus of shopkeepers. Once they are deprived of their means of livelihood they face the prospect of moving into harsh economic zones in the countryside."

Mrs Hoa's case is an example of how shopkeepers and small businessmeo have fared during the past three years of change.

Mrs Hoa, who was forced to leave her aging parents behiod, explained that her family owned two jewelry shops in Saigon and in the Chinese suburb of Cholon before the communists merched into the capital three years ago

"After the communists took cuntrol all jewelry shops were forced to hand over gold and gems to the National Bank of Vietnam. My family shut one shop down and began to sell spare parts for watches. Last year we were forced to stop business altogether because taxes were higher than our capital. From then oo we used hidden savings to obtain food.

The black merket stalls which used to sell smuggled goods openly, no longer exist. "They have gone underground. Their goods have heeo hidden away but they still approach prospective buyers with catalogues. It is now called the 'running market'", Mrs Hoa explained.

Even the rich find escape difficult as Mrs Hoa discovered. In June, 1975, her family paid an unscrupulous shipowner 10oz of gold to pick up their daughter at a secret rendezvous point near the port of Vung Tao. She was left stranded and was forced to return to Saigon.

Io January last year she made another attempt to flee from the island of Phu Quoc. Forged travel documents cost $100, and the ship's captain demanded 17oz io gold from each refugee. After sailing out to sea, the ship was picked up by a communist patrol boat. Mrs Hoa and 75 other refugees were arrested and jailed.

"A high-ranking cadre told us we would be released after two months if our families handed over 2oz of gold for every prisoner. This was negotiated through the black market and we were released."

Mrs Hoa, her husband, and three other members of the family hope to settle in the United States. They will start a new life with clothes on their backs and one gold ring.

Most of the refugees who have arrived in the past week come from the poorer working class. Their reasoos for escape range from restrictions on the freedom of movement to longer workiog hours for less pay and general dislike of Hanoi policy.

Ethiopian 'red terror' enters new phase

From Our CVorrespondent
Nairobi, April 23

A senior Ethiopian official today accused Britain of trying to subvert Third World countries which were trying to create a society free of exploitation.

Major Dawit Wolde-Giorgis, permanent secretary of the Foreign Ministry, made the statement in Addis Ababa before leaving for New York to attend the United Nations conference oo Namiba.

Nairobi, April 23.—Ethiopia's Marxist rulers have embarked on a new phase of their "red terror" campaign to elimioate opposition: mass deunuciation sessions.

Travellers from Addis Ababa said in Nairobi today that tha first mass exposure meeting involved 2,000 employees of the Ministry of Agriculture.

The employees were summoned to the National Thaatre in Addis Ababa for a meeting which lasted from 8.30 am until dusk and were told that a list of those sympathizing with opposition groups had already heeo drawn up.

It was announced that the guilty would have the chanca to denounce themselves but if they did not, and were exposed by others, they would be shot.

By the end of the day, 150 people had denounced themselves and 50 more had heeo denounced by others. All were detained after the meeting.—Reuter.

The five Western foreign ministers before their talks on Namibia in London last night (left to right): Mr Donald Jamieson (Canada), M Louis de Guiringaud (France), Dr David Owen, Mr Cyrus Vance (United States) and Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher (West Germany).

Reply to S Africa may speed Namibia progress

By David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent

An answer to South Africa's request for "clarification" of Western proposals oo the future of Namibia (South-West Africa) is expected to be sent to Pretoria shortly, after last night's meeting of Foreign Ministers of the five Western powers concerned.

The main point at issue is security in Namibia, which has blocked South African acceptance of the plan for elections. The new query raised by Mr R. F. Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, in talks last week, is whether, under the Western plan, South African troops could remain in the territory at the request of an elected government.

Dr David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, held a working dinner for the foreign ministers last night, to report on the talks that he and Mr Cyrus Vance, the United States Secretary of State, had with Mr Botha, and to work out their joint answer. A debate on the Western proposals opens in the United Nations General Assembly today.

Although no official comment has been made, it is believed that the five Western powers (Britain, the United States, France, West Germany and Canada) would probably be able to give South Africa some reassurance on the key point regarding its troops.

Our Johannesburg Correspondent writes: Mr Vorster, the South African Prime Minister, will preside at a critical Cabinet meeting tomorrow when a decision will be taken on the Western proposals.

Vance visit to Moscow brings Salt pact closer

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, April 23

Mr Cyrus Vance, the Ame[rican] Secretary of State, le[ft] Moscow today after three da[ys] of talks which have done mu[ch] to clear the air between t[he] Americans and Russians [and] bring an agreement on t[he] limitation of strategic arm[s] measurably closer.

Speaking at the airpo[rt] before flying to London, Vance said there had [been] "some progress" on reachin[g] a new Salt agreement. [The] talks had also helped bo[th] sides to get a better und[er]standing of the problems i[n]volved in their bilateral re[la]tions.

"We are realistic ab[out] these problems. We know th[at] ... will continue ... require practical measures a[nd] continuous efforts and atte[n]tion" he said.

Mr Vance was seen off [by] Mr Andrei Gromyko, t[he] Soviet Foreign Minister, w[ho] simply said that the spir[it] did not diverge from that [of] the Secretary of State.

The cordial atmosphere w[as] in marked contrast to the ac[ri]mony which surrounded t[he] end of Mr Vance's last vi[sit] here 13 months ago, when t[he] Russians angrily denounc[ed] the Salt II proposals p[ut] forward by the Americans the[n].

Yesterday, Mr Vance had [a] meeting with President Bre[zh]nev. They reviewed Sovi[et]-American relations general[ly] and discussed Africa.

This year, again in contr[ast] to last March, a joint co[m]munique was issued which sa[id] the two sides had held "a n[…]ful and detailed discussion". As a result, it added, "[the] positions of the sides on so[me] of the remaining unco[or]dinated matters drew som[e]what closer together".

Both sides also expres[sed] their intention to make "en[er]getic efforts" to conclude [an] agreement as soon as possi[ble]. They considered the state [of] affairs at other arms talks a[nd] agreed to continue, w[ith] Britain, to work towards a ge[n]eral ban on the testing [of] nuclear weapons. The thr[ee] countries have been drawing [up] a treaty on this issue in Gene[va] since last year.

The Russians and America[ns] also emphasized the impo[rt]ance of the mutual reducti[on] of armed forces in Cent[ral] Europe, the talks now going [on] in Vienna. And they discus[sed] the United Nations Gene[ral] Assembly's forthcoming spe[cial] session on disarmament.

The communique said disc[us]sion on all these matters wo[uld] continue.

Mr Vance has reason to [be] well pleased with his ta[lks] here. Though nothing spect[ac]ular was achieved, the mom[en]tum towards an eventual agr[ee]ment on a matter of vital [in]terest for both countries.

Equally important, the R[us]sians appear to have been re[as]sured of American good fa[ith] in wanting a new Salt agr[ee]ment.

Leading article, page

Mr Carter calls Cambodia worst rights violator

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, April 23

President Carter turned his attention to Cambodia this weekend. He urged other nations to join him in speaking out against what he calls "the worst violator of human rights in the world today".

Refugees had left Cambodia with stories of abuses such as mass killings, inhuman treatment of supporters of the previous government, the total suppression of political and religious freedom, and deprivatioo of food and health care, the President said.

His statement follows criticism from some human rights groups here that the Administration has been ignoring atrocities in a country in which it was very much involved during the Vietnam war.

Our Oslo Correspondent writes: The last meeting of the Ioternational Cambodia Hearing took place in Oslo today amid an overwhelming mass of evidence that the history of butchery and ferocious repression there since the takeover in April, 1975, could easily be substantiated.

The panel of experts giving evidence included Mr John Barron and Mr Antoov Paul, co-authors of the book *Murder of the Gentle Country*; Mr Charles Meyer, personal adviser to Prince Sihanouk for many years, and M Jean Lacouture and M François Ponchaud, two distinguished French authors. All testified to a reign of barbarity in the past three years in the closed country. M Ponchaud made yet another plea for the United Nations Commission on Human Rights to investigate the Cambodian problem; a scandal, he said, parading before the whole world.

The axperts said that all basic rights have been lost, including even those of leaving one's own village, or choosing one's own marriage partner.

Cambodian witnesses spoke of brutal attempts to cut off all links with the past, the abolition of religion, the degradatioo of the pagodas, the break-up of family life, and summary judgments and mass executions.

Law and order had disappeared and the will of the Angka Loue, the Organization on High as it is called, had prevailed since 1975.

Mr Paul commented: "The evidence, although of inconsistent quality, shows that Cambodia has been the scene of grotesque attempts at social engioeering."

Some preliminary information emerged about abortive attempts at counter-revolution in 1976 and 1977, and it was thought that there was still persistent internal opposition.

The hearing was given financial and practical support by the Norwegian Foreign Ministry.

Prisoners of conscience

Iraq: Mrs Hafsa Mulla Hassan

By Clifford Longley

The end of the war in Iraq against Kurdish insurgents negotiated through the good offices of Iran, was based on the granting of a considerable measure of cultural and political autonomy to the Kurds. The Iraqi authorities, in implementing these arrangements, offended Kurdish aspirations which resulted in a resumption of hostilities.

Guerrilla groups are again fighting Iraqi troops, which have responded with fierce measures designed to subdue Kurdish discontent by intimidation. Mrs Hafsa Mulla Hassan, a grandmother from Amadiyah, close to the Turkish border, is a typical victim of the apparently common Iraqi practice of detaining the relatives of Kurds suspected of taking part in the armed struggle. She has been detained since the summer of 1976, together with her daughter-in-law and grandchild.

Her son was sought for questioning, allegedly for having made propaganda for the *pesh merga* (Kurdish forces.) He escaped, and has remained in hiding since. The Iraqi secret police questioned the family, then arrested them. His mother, wife, child and younger brother were taken by lorry to Diwaniya prison and subsequently transfered to Hilla prison.

Mrs Hassan is said to be one of many hundreds, including children, held without trial because their kin are wanted by the secret police. The total may run to many thousands: dissident Kurdish sources speak of some 300,000 deportations from the Kurdish districts of Iraq to the Arab ones as part of the policy of subduing the Kurds. The arrest of family members in such circumstances contravenes Iraq's constitution.

Malaysian MP in secrets case

From Our Correspondent
Kuala Lumpur, April 23

Mr Lim Kit Siang, the Leader of the Opposition in the Malaysian Parliament, was today arrested and later released on bail, on five charges under the Official Secrets Act. He will appear in court in three towns—Malacca, Seremban and Kuala Lumpur—this week.

He was given bail of £2,000 on the charges which relate to the purchase by the Ministry of Defence of four fast patrol boats.

Mr Lim is also the secretary-general of the Democratic Action Party, the main opposition non-Malay party.

Recently, he began wooing the leaders of other opposition parties, and he appears to have succeeded to the point that at least two parties have been destroyed in the process.

Mr Lim was recently called to the English Bar and is now reading in chambers in Malaysia. A former journalist, he entered Parliament in 1969 and was detained without trial for about 18 months under the Internal Security Act after the 1969 racial riots.

He is the second political leader in recent months to be charged under the Official Secrets Act.

Egypt awaits a change in Israeli policy

From David Watts
Hurghada, Egypt, April 23

Israel has yet to show sufficient change of heart on the crucial issues of the Palestinians and withdrawal from occupied territories to tempt Egypt back to full peace negotiations.

On his first visit to Egypt in more than a month Mr Alfred Atherton, the United States Ambassador at large, saw no immediate prospects for a resumption of the peace negotiations after three hours of talks with President Sadat and his senior aides in a villa overlooking the Red Sea.

Mr Sadat and his policy makers find no change in the fundamental Israeli position since the direct peace talks were broken off more than three months ago over the issues of self-determination for the Palestinians and withdrawal from all occupied territories.

Mr Atherton said that Mr Sadat also felt that no further progress in the negotiations was possible until there was some definite change of policy by Israel.

Jerusalem, April 23.—Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, will meet President Carter next Monday for talks aimed at renewing a Middle East peace settlement, Israeli officials said today.

America to slow process of withdrawal in Korea

From Our Own Correspondant
Washington, April 23

Pleading difficulties with Congress, President Carter has ordered a slowing of the planned withdrawal of American ground troops from South Korea.

The White House has announced that only one batallioo consisting of about 800 combat troops will now be withdrawn this year, instead of the 2,400 men from three batallions originally ioteoded.

But the withdrawal of 2,600 non-combat personnel will go ahead as planned, as will the projected 20 per cent increase in the size of the United States Air Porce operation in South Korea.

The original withdrawal programme had been modified because of the "crowded legislative calendar and other matters concerning Korea", the White House statament said. This was a clear acknowledgement by the Administration that Congress is unlikely to authorize the sale of $275m (£144m) worth of weapons and to transfer about $800m (£421m) worth of military equipment to Seoul this year as Mr Carter hoped.

Administration officials said that the "other matters" included tha present investigatious into South Korean attempts to buy the influence of members of Congress. Some Congressmen intend to be as unhelpful as possible io authorizing military aid to South Korea.

The officials said, however, that the timing of the White House announcement had nothing to do with any aoticipated crisis in the Far East.

Thailand may execute Chinese heroin dealers

From Our Correspondent
Bangkok, April 23

Two Chinese heroin manufacturers arrested here with 41 kilograms (90lbs) of the drug ready for shipment to Europe and Australia, according to police, may be executed without trial.

Police who arrested them and located their factory in a suburban house have recommended to the Government that they should be dealt with nnder Articla 27 of Thailand's interim constitution which empowers tha Prime Minister to order summary executions.

Four drug traffickers were executed without trial in Thailand last year.

The latest haul of heroin, ona of the largest made in Thailand, would be worth about £8m on the streets of Europe and Australia.

Seoul airliner strayed over prime strategic area

By Peter Hennessy

The Kola Peninsula, which the errant South Korean airliner flew over on Thursday, is just about the most sensitive strategic area on Soviet territory.

The port of Murmansk and the nearby submarine base of Severomonsk represent the greatest concentration of maritime power the world has ever seen, in the estimate of Western intelligence. The United States Navy is larger than its Soviet equivalent, but it is more dispersed.

The peninsula is little more than an armed camp. It ranks as a prime military target for Nato in contingency planning after a Warsaw Pact attack.

The Soviet northern fleet includes 126 submarines, of which 54 are nuclear powered. Among these are the latest missile-carrying craft capable of launching nuclear strikes against the eastern seaboard of the United States without leaving home waters.

In addition the ports provide shelter for 51 large surface combat vessels. The area is thought also to contain a number of silos for intercontinen[tal] ballistic missiles.

The Kola Peninsula is t[he] focus of intense Western inte[lli]gence surveillance. Satelli[tes] are used to distinguish t[he] latest Soviet weapons as th[ey] come off the production li[ne] and are installed with the arm[ed] forces.

As well as the maritime a[nd] missile weaponry stationed [in] the area, the Soviet Uni[on] maintains a formidable array [of] conventional ground for[ces] adjacent to the Norwegian a[nd] Nato border. Nato's northe[rn] flank is widely regarded as o[ne] of its weakest, with resources outnumbered at le[ast] three to one.

Facing the expos[ed] Norwegian province of Fi[nn]mark is the Soviet 314 Mo[tor] Rifle Division of about 11,0[00] men, 2,000 naval infantrym[en] and a further 2,000 airbor[ne] troops. About 200 landing cr[aft] are available for amphibi[ous] attack on northern Norway.

In support the Soviet Uni[on] has 300 fighter aircraft in t[he] area, about half of which [are] for air defence, the remainde[r] for ground attack.

Testing time for military rulers of Ghana

By Kenneth Mackeozie

The Ghanaian authorities have annouoced the arrest of 35 people "for plotting to overthrow the Government", but according to travellers from Ghana, as many as 300 are being held io detention, including almost all those who led the opposition to "union government" in the referendum on March 30.

Whatever the truth, there is no doubt that the military regime of Genaral Acheampong is facing its most serious crisis since it seized power in 1972.

The referendum which was supposed tu decide how the country was to be returned to civilian rule has settled nothing. There is controversy and uncertainty about the results and about the meaning of "union government".

Officially, 56 per cent voted "yes" to union government (just over 1,100,000) and 44 per cent voted "no" (about 880,000). But the oppositinn reject these figures, and an undoubted shadow has been thrown over them by the fact that Mr Justice I. K. Abban, the Electoral Commissioner, was dismissed as the results were being announced because of a complicated dispute.

Letters from Mr Justice Abban to the authorities, now published in London, make clear three elements in this dispute. First, the Electoral Commissioner protested because a military officer oo the staff of General Acheampong had threateoed his life.

This happened after he had refused to interfere with the appointment of the returoing officers. They were mostly opponents of unioo government, the officer alleged.

Thea the military authorities decided to alter the rules so that the votes should be counted at central points rather than at the polling stations themselves; the maio reason given was that there was no electric light at many polling statioos. Mr Justice Abbao tried to insist that the decree setting up the referendum must be obeyed to the letter.

Finally, on the night of the counting of the results four armed soldiers came to the Electoral Commissioner's office and demanded to be admitted. The Government later said they wanted only to interview a BBC reporter elleged to have been sending slanted messages.

Mr Justice Abban felt he was in danger and fled with his senior officers. He later that night wrote to General Acheampong, explaioing his action, saying he was in a place of safety but refusing to reveal where it was. The authorities dismissed him "for deserting his post".

He has since been to see General Acheampong, taking with him two senior clergymen. General Acheampong has said he is free to resume his position on the Bench.

There continues to be the confusioo there has always been over what exactly is meant by the term "union governmeot". When General Acheampong first coined the term he clearly meant that there should be no political parties and that there should be some sort of combination of Army, civilians and police in the Government.

However, a committee set up under the Attorney General to study the matter, recommended that there should be no automatic Army place in the Cabinet, though there might be on some advisory bodies. The military regime said it accepted the committee's report, but official statements have continued to talk about an active Army role in a future goveroment.

The other uncertainty is whether General Acheampong will be a candidate in the presidential elections due in 1979. It seems now almost certain that he will be.

Critics of the military regime say that what the soldiers are frightened of is that a purely civilian regime might set up commissions to inquire into their cooduct since 1972, and that there might be prosecutions. They are said to have studied carefully the experience of the Greek colooels since the return of civilian rule there.

Union governmeot has been strongly opposed by the professional classes, the students and also by a remarkable range of politicians who combined into the now-banoed People's Movement for Freedom and Justice. They included former supporters of Dr Nkrumah, leaders of the coup that overthrew Nkrumah, former ministers of the Busia government, left-wing leaders, and others.

Almost all are said now to be detained, the notable exception being General A. A. Afrifa, the former Head of State, who is reported to be still at large.

General Acheampong has given assurances that he is not persecuting anyone for their political opinions; he has arrested only "plotters". He has also said that he will stick to his timetable for the return to civilian government.

The next step is the appointment of a committee to draw up a constitution, then a constituent assembly to pass it into law; presidential and legislative elections will lead up to a handover of power in July, 1979.

It would be optimistic to expect averything to go smoothly up to then.

Tornado toll 173

Bhubaneswar, India, April 23.—The toll of the tornado which destroyed 10 villages in the eastern Indian state of Orissa last weekend has been stated officially as 173 dead and more than 600 injured.

Greek-Cypriot talks

Athens, April 23.—Sen[ior] Greek-Cypriot Ministers arri[ved] here today for talks with Gre[ek] leaders after the rejection [in] Nicosia of the Turkish-Cyp[riot] peace plan for Cyprus.

Probable successor to Mr Kadar emerges out of party reshuffle

Budapest, April 23.—Mr Karoly Nemeth, a Hungarian Communist Party secretary, has been given new responsibilities indicating that he is in line as eventual successor to Mr Janos Kadar, the party first secretary, according to informed sources.

Mr Nemeth, who is 56 and a member of the Politburo, moves into the party's number two position this week as secretary in charge of party administration, cadres and mass organizations. This is a post in the party hierarchy just below Mr Kadar.

Mr Nemeth has been a rising star since he was made party secretary in charge of the economy five years ago, after nine years as party leader in the Budapest region.

He had been frequently tipped as Mr Kadar's likely successor. The sources said today that the new appointment made it clear that he is the chosen candidate.

Mr Kadar, who is 65, could decide to retire when his present five-year term ends in 1980.

As party secretary for administration, Mr Nemeth replaced Mr Bela Biszku, who is 57 and has been a Politburo member since 1957. He was regarded as Mr Kadar's deputy, although not as a potential successor.

The party's central committee said after a meeting that ended on Friday that Mr Biszku had retired as a secretary with honours. He remains in the 15-member Politburo.

Mr Biszku's additional secretarial duties in charge of public administration, the armed forces, police and judicial affairs is said to be taken over by Mr Mihaly Korom, former Minister of Justice.

Diplomatic sources said today that Mr Biszku was apparently considered "too ambitious" by Mr Kadar.

He was one of Mr Kadar's closest collaborators and became Minister of the Interior after the 1956 revolution, organizing the so-called workers' guards.

Mr Ferenc Havasi, a Deputy Prime Minister, succeeds Mr Nemeth as party secretary for economic affairs.

Mr Jozsef Marjai, Hungarian Ambassador in Moscow, was made a Deputy Prime Minister in charge of relations with Comecon (Council for Mutual Economic Aid) the Soviet block's trading group. Mr Imre Markoja was appointed Minister of Justice, and Mr Istvan Soltesz, became Minister of Metallurgy.

In a resolution on foreign and domestic policies the Central Committee said: "It is the right and duty of every sister party to act independently and creatively in applying the teachings of Marxism-Leninism and the general laws of the socialist revolution and of construction." A country's "peculiarities and traditions" must be taken into account.

Taking a middle course between the Soviet union and West European Communists the resolution said that every party must "adjust national with international interests".

It gave equal importance to proletarian internationalism, the credo advocated by Moscow, and independence within the world communist movement, but said that both principles should be "based on equality and voluntary cooperation".—Reuter and UPI.

60 million 'volunteers' give a day tidying up mess left by winter

Spring cleaning for Lenin

From Michael Binyon

Moscow, April 23

This weekend all Russia put on overalls and spring cleaned the country. Office workers swept the streets, ministries raked up leaves in parks, young and old scraped, cleaned, painted and tidied up the mess of five months of winter.

This activity was officially in honour of the 108th anniversary of Lenin's birth, and every year the Saturday nearest April 22 is designated subbotnik day when everyone engages in community service or works overtime and donates the wages to state-supported day nurseries, kindergartens and health centres. The rest was presumably ploughed back into the factories.

Subbotnik is hardly essential to the Soviet economy—if it were the number of public holidays presumably would not have been increased a few years ago.

The point, as propagandists emphasize, is the psychological importance of glorifying work. As Pravda said on Friday: "Communist subbotniks are one of the glorious traditions of the Soviet people, a bright testimony to the social, political and ideological unity of a mature socialist society, and an expression of close solidarity with the toiling masses of Lenin's party."

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Argentine junta split over next President

Buenos Aires, April 22.—The Argentine military junta is less and less able to cover up disagreement between the three branches of the armed forces over the choice of the country's next President, according to observers.

This was the main conclusion drawn from the action taken against two leading newspapers which reported that the Army had picked General Jorge Rafael Videla to continue as head of state.

Both newspapers were shut down for three days by the military Government, which also ordered seizure of all copies of the offending editions.

The measures taken against the two newspapers for reporting what was common knowledge in political circles only added to suspicions that the Army's choice is running into opposition from the Navy.

The President must be chosen unanimously by the commanders of the three branches of the armed forces.—Agence France-Presse.

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SPORT

Football

Now for the scramble in wake of winners

By Norman Fox

Football Correspondent

With their unassailable lead of six points and four matches to play Nottingham Forest have closed the league championship over a week early, leaving many more experienced teams scrambling for the remaining Uefa Cup places or simply for survival in the first division. West Ham United, having lost at Manchester United, virtually annulled the advantages that a fine run of five wins in their previous six matches had provided, and there is now even the possibility that Tottenham Hotspur will not balance the capital's scales by being promoted.

The last full week of the season promises to be a harum-scarum. At the top of the second division the idea that Tottenham would hold off the challenge of Brighton was overturned when Spurs lost at home to Sunderland in spite of scoring after 25 seconds. "If you can't beat teams like Sunderland at home, you don't deserve to go up", Keith Burkinshaw, the Tottenham manager, said afterwards.

Meanwhile, Brighton drew at Oldham, but the most positive step of all was taken by Southampton at Luton, where it is never easy to win. On this afternoon, however, Luton defender, Fulcher, conceded a penalty late in the match. Peach scored for a 2—1 victory that took Southampton to the top. Next Saturday they play Tottenham at The Dell.

The first division relegation situation may not be resolved until tomorrow week when Chelsea play Queen's Park Rangers at Stamford Bridge, but West Ham are in urgent need of points. With only two games to play, against Middlesbrough at Ayresome Park tomorrow and Liverpool at Upton Park on Saturday, they must win both to keep Chelsea and Wolverhampton Wanderers under pressure. Wolves took a late equalizing goal and had another disallowed at Chelsea, but they have yet to play Manchester United, who showed no sympathy for West Ham, and Aston Villa, who easily beat West Bromwich Albion 3—0. Queen's Park Rangers chose to achieve their first away win of the season at Newcastle, and should reach safety against Birmingham City tomorrow.

Wrexham will be welcomed to the second division after many superb performances in cup competition. They made certain of promotion by beating Rotherham United 7—1, but were reportedly quite concerned about scoring only twice in the second half. Hereford United joined Portsmouth in relegation to the fourth division and Hull City go down to the third.

Forest supporting actors top the bill

When Nottingham Forest finally won the Football League championship for the first time on Saturday, it was as if they were taken by surprise. The club was formed 113 years ago but the title seemed to arrive overnight. A goalless draw produced the confirming point at Coventry and although some of their supporters danced and cheered, most seemed stunned by it all. The reaction of the players was similar. Some may have been recalling that exactly a year ago it was Notts County who were a fraction nearer being promoted to the first division.

Undoubtedly the club's most significant turning point was the arrival of Brian Clough and Peter Taylor in 1975 but there were times last season when the accolades of this weekend would not have been considered likely even by this confident, inseparable team within a team. Mr Clough's decision to avoid public debate because, as he said on Saturday: "I'm prone to invite problems on my own shoulders", meant that his complaints about the frailty of the available material were rarely heard outside his office. It was clear that he was not satisfied but Forest scraped into the first division one point ahead of Bolton Wanderers and the practicality of this unique managerial partnership then had to be tested to the limit.

At this point it was obvious that against first division attacks it was necessary to have experienced defenders. In the summer Mr Clough made what seemed a dubious purchase, obtaining Burns from Birmingham City for £150,000. Burns had a wild reputation but, facing a new challenge, improved his self control and concentrated on his real ability to such good effect that only last week he was voted Footballer of the Year.

Another shrewd and timely purchase was that of Needham, from Queen's Park Rangers, when Lloyd was injured. The crucial newcomer, however, was the goalkeeper, Shilton, bought from Stoke City for about £270,000 in September. Both Mr Clough and Mr Taylor said that they felt the championship was within reach once they had obtained Shilton.

There is a tendency among managers to frown on the praises that goalkeepers receive for spectacular saves, not least Shilton's amazing acrobatic deflection of Ferguson's header at Coventry on Saturday. "Only a reaction" it was suggested, but few goalkeepers in the world would have reacted as quickly. Managers prefer to think of goalkeepers as the springboards from which moves are built, and Shilton is also an expert by those standards.

Players of the year for the team of the season: Shilton (left), the professionals' choice, and Burns, the writers'.

The mortar of the team is provided by such experienced players as McGovern, Barrett, O'Neill, Withe and O'Hare—none "star" material. Withe epitomizes the success of Mr Clough and Mr Taylor in adapting unremarkable players for use within a team context. His partnership with the much more skilful and dextrous Woodcock and combined with Robertson's wing speed has made Forest's attack the most effective in the League.

When supported at speed by midfield and even defending players, their forward strength has been irresistible. Their few defeats have come from sides of similar outlook, but they have only twice been demonstrably outplayed, once early in the season at Arsenal and then with a weakened team against Liverpool in the League Cup final at Wembley. Even so, they went on to win the replay and so became the first club to take the League Cup and championship in the same season.

The Clough-Taylor partnership now faces the challenge of the European Cup, the essential improving of reserve strength and possibly the replacement of one or two older, regular members of the team. In the meantime, their own record finds a place in football history. Mr Clough is being compared with Herbert Chapman, who was the only other manager to win the championship with two different clubs. Yet it is still difficult to assess his particular talent. He has admitted that Mr Taylor is a much better judge of a footballer.

The pair have been associated since they met as players in Middlesbrough 20 years ago. Mr Clough was only once lost and confused, in a disastrous month at Leeds where an overnight revolution was badly received. Elsewhere players have always believed in him without being able to explain why. He is, perhaps, a supreme "motivator", as, no doubt, was Herbert Chapman, although he would not have known the meaning of the modern word.

Naturally, Forest benefited from the misfortunes of the established first division powers. Liverpool stumbled in mid-season and both Everton and Manchester City lost important matches. Arsenal will be powerful challengers next season and are finishing this one more energetically than any other team. Forest have outrun them all and it will be good news to the Continent that their supporters were not provoked at the moment of celebration on Saturday when hundreds of Coventry youths tried to persuade them to fight on the pitch.

Norman Fox

Farewell to ambition unfulfilled

By Tom German

The song of the sirens luring the stragglers towards the second division will be uncomfortably loud now to West Ham United ears. They are not unfamiliar with it, of course, and for more than an hour at Old Trafford on Saturday were allowed to persuade themselves that they might once more be able to shut their ears to its blandishments. Then Manchester United turned up the volume, scored three times in 10 minutes without hint of response, and left West Ham United, if not wedged firmly on the rocks, certainly looking round anxiously for a means of scrambling off.

If they have the aptitude to do it, they did not reveal much of it on Saturday. The biggest crowd of the day was beginning to wonder whether Manchester had hidden their skills, too, until they suddenly came to vibrant life remembering, perhaps, that this was their last home appearance of a season of unfulfilled ambitions.

So the faithful went home content, their dissatisfaction with a drab first half in which West Ham showed determination to get to the ball first tempered by the reminder that when Manchester do set out to put speed and purpose into their attack it is worth waiting for. All they were offered in the opening half, apart from some none too gentle tackling by West Ham and ill-directed passing by Manchester, were a good header by Robson, which Stepney smothered, and a penalty taken by Pearson with such sign-posting of direction that Ferguson was able to get down and palm it away.

A second penalty prefaced West Ham's deflation. Martin, who had handled to concede the first, now tugged despairingly at Pearson's shirt as he scuttled through; this time young Grimes allowed no chance of another rescue act by Ferguson. The mood of the match changed immediately. Jordan, who had been attentively watched by Green, began turning his opponents; Coppell, the victim of some hefty challenges, was skipping round defenders, and McIlroy was darting forward with his old zest.

West Ham's midfield, as well as their hearts, seemed to sag, and the way was open for more goals. McQueen who, with Buchan, had formed an effective barrier especially to a lively challenge in the air from Cross, intercepted smartly and set off on a weaving run which took him along the left touchline, and then inside in the best style of a seasoned winger. The final pass was behind the remnants of West Ham's defence, and McIlroy tucked it away.

Two minutes more, with Manchester attacking swiftly and sweetly, Jordan and Coppell put McIlroy on course for a header which struck a post, and bounced obligingly to allow Pearson the chance to make up for that earlier penalty miss. West Ham could do with a kindly bounce or two now.

MANCHESTER UNITED: A. Stepney; A. Albiston, S. Houston, S. McIlroy, G. McQueen, M. Buchan, S. Coppell, J. Jordan, S. Pearson, A. Grimes, B. Greenhoff.

WEST HAM UNITED: R. Ferguson; W. Bonds, F. Lampard, A. Martin (sub, P. Brush), T. Taylor, W. Green, A. Curbishley, P. Holland, D. Cross, T. Brooking, R. Robson.

Referee: T. Mills (Barnsley).

Champions and Liverpool in dispute

Liverpool have asked the Football League to settle a disagreement with the champions, Nottingham Forest, over their outstanding league fixture. Liverpool would like to play the game at Anfield on the evening of Thursday, May 4.

Forest will play on that date, but only with an afternoon kick-off as their captain, Kenny Burns, is to attend the Football Writers' dinner in London that evening to receive the Footballer of the Year trophy. Liverpool will not agree to the game being played in the afternoon and are not keen to play the match the previous evening as Forest have suggested as an alternative.

The Liverpool secretary, Peter Robinson, said: "We have a home game with Manchester City on May 1 and feel that May 3 is too close. An added complication is that May 4 is the date of the local government elections in Liverpool and politicians in the city are to ask the club to try and avoid a clash."

The Football League are expected to give their decision today.

Leading goalscorers

[illegible]

Armfield decision

Jimmy Armfield, the Leeds United manager, will know his fate today. Bob Roberts, the senior Leeds director, said yesterday that it was not correct to say he had been sacked. Mr Armfield had been told that the board would discuss his contract. It is understood that if Mr Armfield gives assurances about moving home from Blackpool to Leeds and changing the coaching staff, he may get a new contract to replace the present one which expires on December 31.

The next 180 minutes can undo eight months' work

By Stuart Jones

It all started so crisply. Naylor crossed, Duncan headed down and Taylor tapped it home. Tottenham Hotspur had laid the foundation of a smooth ride on the cobbled stone of a road to the first division. But alarming, although not unforeseen, potholes appeared and it was Sunderland who were left to coast home 3—2 on Saturday.

The vehicle that Spurs drive has enough forward gears, some less orthodox than others. At one late stage, Armstrong felt inspired enough to charge 60 yards, like a bustling centre forward of old, only to fire into Siddall's arms. Goals, therefore, are not rare at White Hart Lane.

Taylor curled a shot against the left-hand post in the first half and Perryman struck the right in the second. Jones peppered the air above the bar from three crosses and only when the issue had been settled did Spurs find the net again. Another cross by Naylor was headed down by Jones and in by Duncan.

Their vehicle, though, has too few reverse gears. Their aerial weakness has already been exposed and here Lee often took advantage of it. But nerves alone cannot explain the space they allowed Sunderland. As if that were not enough, Armstrong also gave them the equalizer after a quarter of an hour, chesting down a hopeful lob at the far post into the path of Rowell.

After Perryman moved up on the hour, Spurs were left as exposed as a tree in winter. Lee, in particular, was given the freedom of north-east London and, to his credit, made use of it. When Docherty spotted the chance of an overlap, he waited patiently at the far post to head home the inevitable cross.

Then he started and finished a move of admirable simplicity. After a one-two on the half-way line, he found Kerr clear on the right and was there on the penalty spot for the return. Rowell could have made it four, and Kerr could have made it five, but Daines smothered the danger each time.

Spurs now have but three hours left, the last half of that at Southampton, the home of the new leaders. Their season, which they have coloured with their effortless skill, will be judged on those 180 minutes. The game, for them, will never seem so hard.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR: B. Daines; T. Naylor, J. Holmes, G. Hoddle, G. Armstrong, S. Perryman, J. Pratt (sub, C. Lee), N. McNab, C. Jones, J. Duncan, P. Taylor.

SUNDERLAND: B. Siddall; M. Henderson, J. Bolton, R. Kerr, J. Clarke, J. Ashurst, W. Rostron, R. Greenwood (sub, S. Elliott), R. Lee, M. Docherty, G. Rowell.

Referee: C. Thomas (Mid Glamorgan).

Peach's penalty is easier than peeling an apple

By Clive White

Ignore any reluctance by Lawrie McMenemy, the Southampton manager, to forecast the outcome of the second division. The former guardsman's attention is elsewhere. He is marching along the touchlines at Anfield, Highbury and Old Trafford to his seat in the dug-out. Judging from the way he embraced Alan Ball on the pitch after the 2—1 win at Kenilworth Road on Saturday and the beaming smile with which he greeted the press Mr McMenemy is already back in the first division.

The Southampton players knew they were there in the eighty-eighth minute. When Ball was indisputably fouled by Paul Futcher a yard inside the penalty area they hugged the little man as if he had just scored the decisive goal at Wembley. It was understandable. Scoring from the penalty spot is easier for Peach than peeling an apple and he obliged by slotting in his eighteenth successive conversion past the elastic Aleksic.

It was a goal they had not particularly deserved but had always given themselves the chance of with their competitive spirit and good forward positions. Coaxing experienced players to work hard has been Mr McMenemy's greatest achievement this season. They should need no driving next year. Nicholl, their rangy centre half prudently bought from Aston Villa, was able to call on the experience of 97 games with Luton Town as he patrolled the humpy, cramped plains of Kenilworth Road. Little got past his watchful eye though he and his sidekick, Andruszewski, were hoodwinked once by the fast-breaking Hill and Stein when the former glided in a sensibly-taken equalizer. They run the danger of ensnaring themselves in their own offside trap next season when they may meet even craftier characters than Luton.

Lack of experience cost Luton their first goal when Ball was this time unjustly awarded a free-kick for a challenge by Fuccillo. While Luton protested, Southampton plotted and Ball's floated cross was put away into a top pocket by MacDougall's head.

Mr Homewood, the referee, came in for almost as much abuse as that other gentleman during the week at Wembley. He, too, cautioned five players: Fuccillo, Peach, Ball, Wells and Ron Futcher.

The joy of the Southampton supporters was unconfined; nor, unfortunately, was it kept to the terraces. They swarmed over the field at the end, swinging on the crossbars and bending them Scotland 77-style. The poor police heavily outnumbered, must have felt like General Custer as they did their best to stand firm at the perimeter. The next invasions will be tomorrow night at Orient where they last gained promotion in 1966, and then, finally, next Saturday at the Dell, where they may be dancing on the grave of Tottenham Hotspur.

LUTON TOWN: M. Aleksic; P. Price, D. Carr (sub, G. Jones), R. Hill, J. McNichol, P. Futcher, B. Stein, A. West, R. Futcher, P. Fuccillo, P. Boersma.

SOUTHAMPTON: P. Wells; M. Andruszewski, D. Peach, S. Williams, C. Nicholl, M. Pickering, A. Ball, P. Boyer, E. MacDougall, N. Holmes, A. Funnell.

Referee: B. J. Homewood (Sunbury-on-Thames).

Wolves are denied celebration

By Geoffrey Green

Chelsea and Wolverhampton Wanderers after a nerve wracking 1—1 draw at Stamford Bridge on Saturday, both continue to hang on to the top drawer by their fingernails.

While Leicester City and Newcastle United are already going down, the side to join them in the Second Division must come from London or the Midlands. It remains a four cornered fight for survival between Queen's Park Rangers, Chelsea, West Ham United, and Wolves. Chelsea's salvation, at least, is in their own hands. On Wednesday they play at Leicester: on May 2 they play Queen's Park Rangers, at Stamford Bridge.

Twelve months ago Wolves and Chelsea were challenging each other for the championship of the Second Division, with Nottingham Forest tracking them in promotion. A year can be a lifetime in football. Wolves' visit to London represented a "crunch" match. In essence four points and not two were at stake. As it happens Wanderers could have gathered up the spoils but were denied their reward by a hard offside decision which refused them a goal after only eight minutes.

When Droy slipped as he turned on a through-pass—Rafferty stole inside him, took the ball to the right by-line and slipped it backwards for Eves to shoot home.

The celebrations were cut short when the referee took notice of a linesman's flag. Rafferty was judged to have been offside as Eves found the net. Yet Rafferty had not moved after making his diagonal pass from the line. Even Shellito, the Chelsea manager, was honest enough to remark: "I think the referee must be my father-in-law. I just couldn't work it out and I know how Wolves must feel."

Certainly it knocked the steam out of the visitors for the rest of the opening half, the more so when Chelsea sneaked a ragged lead after quarter of an hour. At least that crucial strike signalled the return of the talented Ray Wilkins after a month's absence with groin trouble.

Though still not fully fit, a calculated risk was taken in playing him and he ended the afternoon none the worse for wear beyond a tiredness after the interval. It was one of his long, first time passes that set Britton and Finnieston free on the right, leaving Langley to prod in the centre at the second attempt.

The rest was largely fractured by nervous tension, with Wolves masters all through the second half. There were misses and saves both ends amid a chorus of oohs and aahs from the 31,000 crowd, with Bonetti once tipping over a rising left foot shot from Daley. Both sides struggled until Eves snatched the equalizer four minutes from the end after Bonetti had failed to stifle Patching's header.

CHELSEA: P. Bonetti; G. Locke, G. Wilkins, I. Britton, M. Droy, S. Wicks, S. Finnieston, K. Swain, T. Langley, R. Wilkins, W. Garner.

WOLVERHAMPTON WANDERERS: P. Bradshaw; J. Palmer, D. Parkin, S. Daley, R. Hazell, J. McAlle, M. Patching, G. Berry, J. Richards, W. Rafferty, M. Eves.

Referee: R. Robinson (Norwich).

Tennis

Champion moves slowly to victory

Linda Mottram, the defending champion, held off a spirited challenge from Jacqueline Fayter to maintain her grip on the women's singles title in the Cumberland Club hard court tennis tournament at Hampstead, London. Miss Mottram had to struggle against the colourless, but effective baseline game of Miss Fayter for two hours and a quarter before scrambling home by 6—3, 6—7, 6—2.

Miss Mottram, who beat Miss Fayter in last year's final over three equally long sets, should have finished Saturday's encounter much more quickly. Her more aggressive play gave her the first set and a 6—5 lead with service to follow in the second. She wasted this opportunity and, after losing the tie-break game by 7—1, seemed to have lost her grip on the match. She came back by breaking service in the opening game of the final set and then moved slowly to victory.

Christopher Bradnam, a Middlesex county player, earned his first senior title when he beat Michael Appleton in a one-sided final by 6—1, 6—3. The first set was over in 18 minutes, the match in 46 minutes, and Bradnam stepped off court looking as though he had had no more than a gentle workout.

MEN'S SINGLES: Final round: C. Bradnam beat M. R. Appleton, 6—1, 6—3.

MEN'S DOUBLES: Final round: Appleton and J. Dier beat A. H. Lloyd and J. Woodford, 7—5, 3—6, 6—3.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES: Final round: Miss J. M. Durie and Miss A. E. Hobbs beat Miss C. Harrison and Miss D. A. Jevans, 7—5, 6—3.

TOKYO: Suntory Cup final: B. Borg beat J. Connors, 6—1, 6—2. Third place play-off: M. Orantes beat G. Vilas, 3—6, 7—6, 6—4.

NICE: Men's singles: Semi-final round: J. Higueras beat P. Proisy, 6—1, 6—2; Y. Noah beat G. Lewis, 6—2, 7—5. Final: Higueras beat Noah, 6—3, 6—2, 6—4. Women's singles: Semi-final round: B. Simon beat N. Anilo, 6—1, 6—3; F. Bonicelli beat E. Weisenberger, 6—0, 6—3.

HOUSTON: WCT tournament: Semi-final round: I. Nastase beat Z. Franulovic, 6—2, 1—6, 6—1; B. Gottfried beat C. Barazzutti, 6—2, 6—2.

Rackets/Real tennis

Angus and Milne win after being in danger

By Our Own Correspondent

Howard Angus and Andrew Milne became the amateur rackets doubles champions at Queen's Club yesterday. In a match that delighted the purists and was clinical, absorbing and intelligently played, they beat Geoffrey Atkins and David Jenkins, by 15—7, 12—15, 15—9, 14—17, 12—15, 18—17, 15—4 after surviving a match point against them at 16—17 in the sixth game.

The losers in the previous round had put out the holders, Thomas Pugh and William Boone in seven games.

On that match point which will long remain in the memories of players and spectators, there was a sharp rally. Angus returned a shot down the left hand wall that would have beaten almost anyone. The losers tried again for a winner, striking the ball down the middle of the court. Milne, off balance, got his racket to the ball, and by sheer instinct played a short shot that hit the front wall half an inch above the board and died before the opponents could reach it. That gave Angus, who had held his side together in the latter part of the match and Milne, who after a brilliant start had retired into the shadows, the lift they needed. They were never pressed in the final game.

When Angus and Milne were down 0—7 in the sixth game, Angus decided to take the load off his partner, and, as far as possible, play a single. Here he was helped in that Atkins and Jenkins, having suffered from Milne's superlative play in the early games, had decided to attack him. It was like feeding bullets into a machine gun and keeping one's finger on the trigger. In one hand, Angus made it 8—7, and then 12—9 before Atkins and Jenkins recognized the threat. It might not have been too late, had Milne not got his racket to that ball at match point.

An hour before this match began the irrepressible Angus had opened his defence of the Amateur Real Tennis Singles Championship, beating Richard Bridgeman in three sets. The feature of the day's play was the victory for Bob Cowper, the former Australian Test cricketer ... [illegible]

[illegible]

Weekend results and tables

First division

[illegible]

Second division

Blackburn	1	Sheffield U	1
Blackpool	1	Mansfield	2
Bristol R	4	Stoke	1
Cardiff	1	Bolton	0
Charlton	3	Burnley	[illegible]
Fulham	0	Millwall	1
Luton	1	Southampton	2
Notts County	[illegible]	Crystal Palace	0
Oldham	1	Brighton	1
Orient	2	Hull	1
Tottenham	2	Sunderland	3

[illegible]

Third division

Bury	1	Plymouth	1
Chesterfield	1	Chester	2
Exeter	0	Colchester	2
Lincoln	3	Bradford C	2
Peterborough	1	Tranmere	0
Portsmouth	0	Preston	2
Port Vale	0	Carlisle	1
Sheffield W	0	Cambridge U	0
Shrewsbury	1	Oxford U	0
Swindon	1	Hereford	0
Walsall	2	Gillingham	1
Wrexham	7	Rotherham	1

[illegible]

Fourth division

Bournemouth	1	Grimsby	0
Brentford	2	Darlington	0
Crewe	2	Doncaster	0
Halifax	1	Watford	0
Hartlepool	1	Newport	1
Northampton	3	Swansea	1
Reading	0	Barnsley	0
Scunthorpe	1	Aldershot	1
Southport	1	Huddersfield	1
Torquay	3	York	0
Wimbledon	2	Stockport	0

[illegible]

Scottish premier division

[illegible]

Scottish first division

[illegible]

Scottish second division

[illegible]

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Old Bradfieldians 1, Old Aldenhamians 3; Old Carthusians 4, Old Chigwellians 4; Old Salopians 0, Old Cholmeleians 6.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Barking 2, Walthamstow Avenue 1; Dagenham 1, Boreham Wood 0; Enfield 2, Leatherhead 0; Hitchin Town 3, Hayes 0; Leytonstone 1, Carshalton Athletic 0; Slough Town 1, Sutton United 1; Southall and EB 1, Kingstonian 3; Staines Town 1, Hendon 0; Tilbury 5, Bishop's Stortford 1; Woking 3, Tooting and Mitcham 2; Wycombe Wanderers 1, Croydon 1. First division: Bromley 0, Ilford 3; Chesham United 1, Harrow Borough 1; Corinthian-Casuals 1, Walton and Hersham 2; Finchley 0, Dulwich Hamlet 4; Harrow Town 1, Aveley 0; [illegible]

[illegible]

European results

[illegible]

Tonight's football

[illegible]

SPORT

Cricket

Double wicket game could have a future

By Richard Streeton

Indoor cricket received the biggest boost so far in its short life by the novel double wicket event for international teams put on at Wembley yesterday by the Cricketers' Association, and sponsored by Brylcreem. West Indies gained the £1,000 first prize through the efforts of Larry Gomes and Norbert Phillip, both passing the time actively and lucratively between Test matches against Australia.

Compared with football and hockey, cricket has been slow off the mark, perhaps, to appreciate the possibilities of playing an indoor game in which entertainment and exercise are the prime ambitions. The six-a-side version has grown rapidly in popularity in the Midlands and North in recent years and the variety open to a double wicket competition has now been shown. If the play tended to pall for some after several hours by its limitations in scope and basic repetitiveness, its potential for growth was also clearly visible.

The constant action brought amusement and pleasure to about 3,000 spectators at the Empire Pool. Indisputably it does seem that indoor cricket could have a definite future, not least in the winter months, at the many leisure centres now being built or at schools lacking outdoor facilities.

Each of the six teams batted for 15 overs against three overs in turn from their rivals with seven players fielding and a neutral wicketkeeper. All singles run counted for three and fours and sixes could only be obtained behind the bowler. So this sophisticated version of tip-and-run proved a game for the nudgers and fast-runners between the wickets, with placing and straight hitting also important virtues.

The tournament's finishing order was arrived at by dividing a team's total by the number of times its batsmen were dismissed. West Indies, first to bat at 11 am, set a standard which was always going to be hard to beat by scoring 174 for one dismissal. Gomes made 82 and was the only batsman all day to escape dismissal. He was made Man of the Tournament by Godfrey Evans. Phillip, from Dominica, who has joined Essex as Keith Boyce's successor, made 80, being run out once.

The mathematics seldom far away nowadays from cricket meant effectively that the other teams could not afford to lose more than one wicket if they were to beat the average of 174.00 set by the West Indians. Australia, who finished second, and Pakistan came nearest but faltered in the late stages. England, last to bat, lost all hope after Randall was run out in the sixth over and Ian Botham was twice dismissed in the eighth over.

WEST INDIES, 174 for one (average 174), L. Gomes 82 not out, N. Phillip 80 (one dismissal), extras 12, (£1,000).

AUSTRALIA, 181 for two (90.50) P. Carlson 93 (one dismissal), I. Brayshaw, 66 (one dismissal), extras 22 (£750).

NEW ZEALAND, 182 for three (60.66), R. Hadlee 84 (one dismissal), M. Burgess 83 (two dismissals), extras 15 (£500).

ENGLAND, 237 for five (47.40), I. Botham 106 (four dismissals), D. Randall 102 (one dismissal), extras 29 (£350).

PAKISTAN, 206 for five (41.20) W. Raja 106 (three dismissals), J. Miandad 94 (two dismissals), extras 7 (£200).

INDIA, 174 for eight (21.75) (B. Bedi 95 (six dismissals), S. Gavaskar 75 (two dismissals), extras 6 (£150).

Warwickshire bewitched by spin bowlers

Warwickshire, set to score a demanding 223 for victory, were wrecked by the Derbyshire spin bowlers in their Benson and Hedges Cup game at Ilkeston yesterday and lost by 66 runs. Warwickshire were all out for 156 in 53.3 overs with the left-arm spin bowler Swarbrook taking four for 33—including a devastating spell of four for two. England's off-spin bowler Miller contributed an economical two for 29 to start the Derbyshire breakthrough.

Only Amiss stayed for long but his 47 took 36 overs and the other batsmen were put under pressure to take risks in the pursuit of more rapid runs. The Man of the Match award went to Hill, whose unbeaten 102 provided the backbone of Derbyshire's 222 for five the previous day.

DERBYSHIRE: 222 for 5 (A. Hill 102 not out; E. J. Barlow 73).

WARWICKSHIRE

D. L. Amiss, b Swarbrook	47
R. D. Smith, c Tunnicliffe, b Miller	26
J. Whitehouse, c Swarbrook, b Miller	18
P. R. Oliver, c Taylor, b Barlow	4
R. N. Abberley, c Taylor, b Swarbrook	1
G. W. Humpage, l-b-w, b Swarbrook	3
S. J. Rouse, run out	13
E. E. Hemmings, l.b.w., b Swarbrook	0
D. J. Brown, run out	19
G. D. Wills, c Kirsten, b Tunnicliffe	17
S. P. Perryman, not out	1
Extras (l-b 6, w 1)	7
Total	156

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—34, 2—97, 3—95, 4—97, 5—79, 6—100, 7—100, 8—130, 9—154, 10—156.

BOWLING: Hendrick, 0—0—25—0; Tunnicliffe, 4—3—0—18; Russell 5—2—24—0; Barlow, 6—0—20—1; Miller, 11—2—29—2; Swarbrook, 11—4—33—4.

Rice offered help by Association

The Cricketers Association are ready to help Clive Rice, the South African all-rounder, dismissed by Nottinghamshire last week. They are powerless to intervene in the dispute involving Sarfraz Nawaz and his demand for a better daily allowances during the Pakistan tour, which begins at Worcester on Tuesday.

"Sarfraz signed the contract and he should stick to it", Mahmood Hussain, the manager said. "If he comes to Worcester all well and good but if he does not appear within a few days we shall have to think seriously about sending a request for another man."

Saturday's scores

Benson and Hedges Cup

CHELMSFORD: Surrey, 183 for 6 (J. H. Edrich 59); Essex, 178 for 8. Surrey won by 10 runs.

CARDIFF: Glamorgan v Somerset, no play.

CANTERBURY: Kent, 160 (A. G. E. Ealham 65; C. S. Stevenson 5 for 28); Yorkshire, 114 (R. A. Woolmer 4 for 31). Kent won by 46 runs.

LEICESTER: Sussex, 150 for 9; Leicestershire, 144. Sussex won by 6 runs.

IPSWICH: Minor Counties East, 80 (W. W. Daniel 7 for 12); Middlesex, 81 for 2. Middlesex won by 8 wickets.

CHIPPENHAM: Gloucestershire, 161 for 9 (A. W. Stovold 52 not out, Zaheer Abbas 60); Minor Counties West, 96. Gloucestershire won by 65 runs.

CAMBRIDGE: Hampshire, 236 for 4 (D. R. Turner 80 not out, C. G. Greenidge 61); Combined Universities, 91. Hampshire won by 145 runs.

Schools matches

Arnold, Blackpool, 75-8 dec, Bury GS 81-1; Colchester RGS 81, Brentwood 85-3; Hreod Burna, Nottingham 53-7, St John's, Marlborough 51-7; St Joseph's Academy 29, Haberdasher's Aske's, Hatcham 33-3; Tonbridge 161-5 dec (J. Spurling 100 not out), Tonbridge 94-8.

Golf

Birdies give Barnes ideas of victory

From Peter Ryde
Golf Correspondent
Barcelona, April 23

Two seasons ago it became fashionable to win golf tournaments by a large margin. Raymond Floyd started it with a runaway Masters and he was followed by among others, Nicklaus and Ballesteros. Perhaps this season will be the year of the change. Player began it this time with a last Masters round of 64 which overtook a dozen. Last week Brian Barnes worked himself into second place in Portugal with a final 66. On Saturday he won the Spanish Open here by two strokes from Howard Clark with a last round 64. This was one stroke more than the record 63 of Tom Watson here last year.

James had shown Barnes what could be done in the third round with 65 which catapulted him into the lead. The well groomed course at El Prat helped. With a length of less than 6,500 yards and eight par four holes under 400 yards, scoring chances abound for the man in form. He is not troubled by trees and the lurking fear that his ball may stay out of reach in one of them.

The first shot of his I saw was a pitch to the seventh which finished almost in the hole. It was the beginning of a run of four birdies in a row during which he turned in 31 and realized, for the first time, his chance to overtake the whole field. His birdie at the ninth was in spite of mishitting a one-iron, but at the 10th he hit two shots just short of the green with the same club and drew level with the leaders.

In that run of birdies he had singles putts on each green, but a measure of his quality was that in his 64 he missed from six feet at the 11th and from seven feet for another at the hardest hole, the 14th. He took his chance of a birdie at the 15th and though any prudent golfer would hardly be looking for birdies at the last three Barnes got a long putt in his eighth birdie at the 18th.

For much of the round Clark did not look like the winner, starting with a series of struggling pars. They were broken only by a lucky birdie at the seventh when his hooked second cannoned off a tree and a spectator and running sideways across the green finished seven feet away. As the climax approached he summoned his resolution, firing a three iron to within 12 feet at the 16th for a birdie, and holing from 10 feet for another at the next hole. He was now within one stroke of Barnes but bunkered his last drive. So, as had happened throughout the tournament, each round produced its new leader

276: B. Barnes, 67, 75, 70, 64.
278: H. Clark, 67, 67, 74, 70.
280: A. Garrido (Spain), 66, 70, 74, 70. S. Balbuena (Spain), 73, 69, 69, 69.
281: D. King, 72, 68, 72, 69. S. Ballesteros (Spain), 72, 68, 70, 71; M. James, 71, 71, 65, 74.
283: D. Hayes (S Africa), 69, 71, 74, 69; M. Ballesteros (Spain), 70, 72, 72, 69; J. Canizares (Spain), 69, 71, 69, 74.
284: H. Baiocchi (S Africa), 72; J. Cabo (Spain), 68.
285: S. Lyle, 72; M. Calero (Spain), 71; K. Brown, 71; J. Morgan, 73.
286: S. Torrance, 70; C. Mason, 70; J. Bland (S Africa), 71; M. Gregson, 71; L. Riggins (Ireland), 71.
287: A. Jacklin, 73; T. Britz (S Africa), 73; D. Watson (S Africa), 74.
288: M. Foster, 71; E. Polland (Ireland), 73; G. Hunt, 74.
289: M. McNulty (S Africa), 74; P. Elson, 74, S. Hobday (Rhodesia), 73; B. Huggett, 72; A. Oosthuizen (S Africa), 74.
290: N. Hunt, 71; A. Charnley, 72; B. Gallacher, 74; E. Darcy (Ireland), 75; V. Baker (S Africa), 77.
291: N. Faldo, 73; D. Gullen, 75.

Racing

Hern represents England's hopes of defying O'Brien in classics

By Michael Seely

Whitbread Gold Cup day at Sandown Park is always something of a gala occasion. And once again the huge crowd thronging the enclosures received full value for their money. The highlight of an action-packed afternoon was the enthralling duel between Tommy Stack on Stromboluş and the 24-year-old Jane Thorne on Spartan Missile in the big steeplechase.

The spoils of victory went to Stack and Stromboluş's owner and trainer, Michael Buckley and Peter Bailey. But the honours were shared by Miss Thorne and her father John, whose riding instructions she executed to the letter.

The flat racing was also superb. The group three Westbury Stakes was won in gallant style by last year's Derby second, Hot Grove. Despite starting favourite at 7-4, Lord Leverhulme's four-year-old was totally unfancied by his trainer, Fulke Johnson Houghton, who thought that the distance of the race was too short and that Hot Grove was sure to need the race. We can now look forward to an exciting clash between Hot Grove and Crow in the Ormonde Stakes at Chester.

Ryan Price put the cat among the pigeons when Whitstead galloped a useful field for the Classic Trial Stakes into the ground, eventually winning by 10 lengths from Shirley Heights with Bolak, the 7-4 favourite, well beaten in arrears. Obviously Whitstead, who finished a creditable fifth to Dactylographer in the William Hill Futurity Stakes last October, is a staying three-year-old of some potential.

But, Shirley Heights, who was conceding 6 lb to the winner ran a race full of promise. His jockey, Greville Starkey, told John Dunlop that the three-year-old tired in the mud, which he has never liked. Shirley Heights's next appearance in the Dante Stakes at York will be awaited with interest. The Arundel trainer also confirmed that Balmerino was in fine fettle for his tilt against the Italian champion, Sirlad, in the Prix Ganay at Longchamp on Sunday.

Dick Hern is a wonderful trainer. This quiet and modest man likes to let his deeds speak for him. This week Admiral's Launch and Boldboy have done just that. And on Saturday Hern gained his third important success of the week when William Carson and an immaculately turned-out Rhyme Royal fought off the sustained challenge of the favourite, Brother Kempinski in the Esher Cup.

It was also a happy moment in the unsaddling enclosure afterwards as the Queen greeted her first winner of the season. Last year the West Ilsley trainer enjoyed his best season. Amongst his many triumphs were Dunfermline's defeat of Alleged in the St Leger and that of Relkino over Artaius in the Benson and Hedges Gold Cup at York.

Now Hern may represent our best hope of defying Vincent O'Brien again. At the Curragh yesterday, the worth of Try My Best's Phoenix Park performance was given a solid boost when the runner-up in that race, Columbanus captured the Tetrach Stakes.

Yet I feel we may have undervalued Admiral's Launch's win in the Craven Stakes. The Brigadier Gerard colt was going very easily at the top of the hill and it was only greenness that made him appear unimpressive at the finish. The form is solid and Admiral's Launch has so far responded to every demand made on him by his skilful trainer.

Try My Best may well appear to be unbeatable in the first classic, but those who are prepared to risk a little each way on Admiral's Launch for the Guineas and Derby and to couple him in an each-way double for the same two races might find themselves in a healthy position on May 6. I have a healthy respect for both Camden Town and Derrylin.

STATE OF GOING (official): Bath: Good. Warwick: Good to soft. Folkestone: Good. Hexham: Good. Tomorrow: Epsom: Good. Nottingham: Good. Chepstow: Good.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: Derby Stakes, Epsom: Portmao, Valiar Forgo, at 2.30 pm, April 20; Aire Zero, Robbert Bos, at 9 am, April 21. Oaks, Epsom: Crona Bourne, Damask Violet, at 2.30 pm, April 20. Forciqo Niece, at 9 am, April 21.

Longchamp results

[illegible]

Sandown Park results

[illegible]

Thirsk

[illegible]

Leicester

[illegible]

Hexham NH

[illegible]

Uttoxeter NH

[illegible]

Nishapour follows in his sire's hoofprints

From Desmond Stoneham
French Racing Correspondent
Paris, April 23

The Aga Khan's handsome grey colt, Nishapour, ridden to perfection by Henri Samani, trounced his field in the Poule d'Essai des Poulains (French 2,000 Guineas) here at Longchamp this afternoon. Starting at odds of nearly 5-1, Nishapour was two and a half lengths ahead of Rusticaro at the post. Pyjama Hunt ran an excellent race to finish a head away, third, with Kenmare fourth. The English challenger, Aythorpe, never appeared with a chance and eventually finished tenth, beaten about eight lengths.

Exactly 10 years ago, Zeddaan, the sire of Nishapour, won the Poule d'Essai for the Aga Khan, who was also successful in 1973 with Kalamoun and last season with Blushing Groom. François Mathet, the trainer, was winning the classic for the sixth time. There are no set plans for Nishapour, but it is likely that the colt will be kept to distances of around a mile.

Kaldoun and the young apprentice, Jacques Heloury, made a first class job of pace making for Nishapour and the 2-1 favourite, Kenmare. When they finished their work at the 300 metre mark, Samani shot Nishapour into the lead and thereafter the pair were not troubled by their 13 other rivals. Kenmare held second position into the final furlong, but he could not hold off the fast finishes of Rusticaro and Pyjama Hunt. Lester Piggott took fifth place on Turville and then came Kaldoun and Calman, who never really showed with much promise.

The rest of the windy but sunny day at Longchamp was dominated by Jacques Wertheimer and Alec and Freddie Head. This team won three races including the Prix Jean Prat with Midshipman. When the stalls opened for this long distance warm-up for the Prix du Cadran and Ascot Gold Cup, Montorselli ran out and took no part.

With nobody else wishing to set the pace, Freddie Head took Midshipman into the lead, and, apart from a moment in the straight when the colt jumped a newspaper, the pair were never headed. Hawkberry took a slight advantage one and a half furlongs from home while Midshipman was distracted, but he was repassed inside the final furlong by the genuine and courageous winner.

Amyntor finished late to take third place in front of Shafaraz, Sovereign Silver and Vagaries. The first five in the Jean Prat are all likely to be seen at Ascot for the Gold Cup on June 22.

Folkestone programme

1.45 CHATHAM STAKES (2-y-o fillies: £938: 5f)

1	41	Abbotsinch (D), M. Prescott, 9-1 ... C. Dufffield	6
2	1	Purple Mark (D), C. Brittain, 9-1 ... E. Hide	9
5	1	Yat Oing Fat (D), S. Supple, 9-1 ... E. Eldin	1
9		Go-Go-Bust, G. Harwood, 8-8 ... C. Starkey	4
10		Love-N-Order, S. Supple, 8-8 ... H. Ballantine	7
12	0	My Lynnie, M. Ryan, 8-8 ... D. Maitland	2
13	0	Phyllisia, A. Jones, 8-8 ... N. Howe 7	5
17	0	Sheer Elegance, S. Swift, 8-8 ... G. Ramshaw	8
19	00	Tonic, R. Smyth, 8-8 ... I. Jenkinson	3

4-5 Abbotsinch, 7-2 Yat Oing Fat, 5-1 Purple Mark, 6-1 Sheer Elegance, 8-1 Go-Go-Bust, 16-1 Love-N-Order, 13-1 My Lynnie, 16-1 others.

2.15 GILLINGHAM HANDICAP (£544: 1¼m)

[illegible]

2.45 SALTWOOD HANDICAP (£1,268: 6f)

[illegible]

3.15 "PRIVY COUNCILLOR" STAKES (3-y-o: £1,676: 7f)

401	24310-2	Be But (D), I. Balding, 9-3 ... G. Starkey	3
405	411412-	Delta Sierra (C,D), B. Hills, 9-5 ... P. d'Arcy 7	6
404	213-24	Gypsy Dancer, P. Walwyn, 9-3 ... F. Morby	5
406	01010-0	Moyana (D, B), G. Hunter, 9-3 ... M. Roberts	4
408	301400-	Blessed Soandso, C. Brittain, 9-1 ... E. Hide	2
410	2001-00	Renucci, W. Cuesi, 9-1 ... L. Casey 7	1

11-8 Gypsy Dancer, 9-4 Be But, 5-1 Delta Sierra, 8-1 Moyana, 16-1 Blessed Soandso, 20-1 Renucci.

3.45 GRAVESEND HANDICAP (£977: 1¼m)

[illegible]

4.15 DARTFORD STAKES (Maiden 3-y-o fillies: £595: 5f)

[illegible]

Folkestone selections

By Our Racing Staff
1.45 Yat Ding Fat. 2.15 Gurney Slade. 2.45 White Wonder. 3.15 Gypsy Dancer. 3.45 River Mahwa. 4.15 Katie Gay.
By Our Newmarket Correspondent
1.45 Abbotsinch. 2.15 Blessed Soandso. 4.15 Aruba.

Bath programme

2.0 SPA STAKES (3-y-o: £656: 1m)

[illegible]

2.30 HODCOTT STAKES (2-y-o: £748: 5f)

[illegible]

3.0 EMPIRE HANDICAP (£1,529: 1m 3f 150yd)

[illegible]

3.30 SOMERSET STAKES (3-y-o: £1,693: 1¼m 50yd)

[illegible]

4.0 ILCHESTER HANDICAP (£1,316: 5f 167yd)

[illegible]

4.30 BLATHWAYT STAKES (Div I: 3-y-o: £791: 1m 3f 150yd)

[illegible]

5.0 BLATHWAYT STAKES (Div II: 3-y-o: £785: 1m 3f 150yd)

1	0000-00	Bally Mick, Mrs A. Finch, 9-0 ... B. Raymond	0
2	0-	Cover Up, L. Kennard, 9-0 ... A. Cousins	4
3	00-030	Debsboy, P. Arthur, 9-0 ... —	11
6	00u0-	Eastwood Marshall, M. Pipe, 9-0 ... —	8
14		Le Thenney, J. Tree, 9-0 ... R. S. Elliott	12
16	00-	Major George, D. Keith, 9-0 ... P. J. Court 7	7
17		Sand Yacht, P. Cundell, 9-0 ... W. Higgins 0	3
23	00-00	The Kaffir, M. E. Francis, 9-0 ... D. McKay	10
27	000-2	William The First, W. Hern, 9-0 ... W. Carson	2
28	00200-0	Cardenia Press, R. Hollinshead, 8-11 ... T. Ives	5
29	33-	Hussy, H. Candy, 8-11 ... P. Waldron	9
30	0-0	Kate Hodder, H. Price, 8-11 ... B. Taylor	13
32	00-0	Misty Clea, J. Bradley, 8-11 ... R. Curant	1

5-4 William The First, 3-1 Kate Hodder, 4-1 Hussy, Debsboy, 7-1 Gardenia Press.

Bath selections

By Our Racing Staff
2.0 Tantanoola. 2.30 Tap On Wood. 3.0 Winged Dagger. 3.30 Rhineland. 4.0 Boundless. 4.30 Tipstaff. 5.0 William the First.

Warwick programme

2.15 QUASHED STAKES (2-y-o: £691: 5f)

[illegible]

2.45 ROCKFEL STAKES (2-y-o: £425: 5f)

[illegible]

3.15 GODIVA HANDICAP (£977: 2m)

[illegible]

3.45 SHINY TENTH (Handicap: £1,718: 1¼m 170yd)

[illegible]

4.15 LIGHT BROCADE STAKES (3-y-o: £894: 1m)

[illegible]

4.45 LOVELY ROSA STAKES (Handicap: 3-y-o: £1,062: 7f)

14	02000-3	Banco, R. Houghton, 8-10 ... J. Reid	6
15	034-	Deciduous, D. Marks, 8-9 ... M. Malham 7	3
17	00000-0	Roses All The Way, C. Benstead, 8-6 ... B. Rouse	10
18	210040-	Hot Chestnut, W. Holden, 8-6 ... A. Fairchild 7	11
19	3000-12	Somers Heir (C-D), W. Wightman, 8-5 ... M. Thomas	4
27	00010-0	Shiny Step (C-D), W. Wharton, 7-12 ... W. Wharton	5
29	020-00	Last Bus, J. Tierney, 7-12 ... M. Wigham 5	1
30	400-2	Rotingo, A. Dalton, 7-10 ... G. Eccleston	7
31	00030-4	Rodshot, C. Booth, 7-8 ... S. Salmon	15
32	120016-	Razor Blade (D), K. Ivory, 7-7 ... J. McClean	7
33	00000-0	Pretty Good, A. W. Jones, 7-1 ... K. Darley 5	2
34	00000-0	Forza Del Destino, Mrs R. Lomax, 7-0 ... M. Rimmer 7	10

4-1 Somers Heir, 5-1 Ladyrold, 13-2 True Justice, 8-1 Banco, 9-1 Rotingo, 10-1 Rodshot, 12-1 Tothill Lad, 14-1 Deciduous, 16-1 Shiny Step, 20-1 others.

Warwick selections

By Our Racing Staff
2.15 Bart. 2.45 Mary's Bazaar. 3.15 Springdamus. 3.45 Nyota. 4.15 Buffoon. 4.45 Somers Heir.
By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.15 Tycho Brake. 2.45 Gold Scare. 3.15 Paper Rich. 3.45 Nyota. 4.15 Seriema. 4.45 Rotingo.

Hexham NH

2.30 DEVILS WATER HURDLE (Handicap: £473: 2m)

[illegible]

3.0 QUEEN MARGARET CHASE (Handicap: £837: 2m)

[illegible]

3.30 HEART OF ALL ENGLAND CHASE (Hunters: £1,054: 3m)

[illegible]

4.0 MICHAEL HENDERSON HURDLE (Handicap: £813: 2m)

[illegible]

4.30 JACK FAWCUS HURDLE (Maidens: £552: 3m)

[illegible]

5.0 DIPTON MILL CHASE (Div I: novices: £602: 2m)

[illegible]

5.30 DIPTON MILL CHASE (Div II: novices: £597: 2m)

[illegible]

Rugby League

Burton's late try boosts Castleford

A try by Burton in the fourth minute of injury time gave Castleford victory by 20—17 in this local Derby. There was nothing end-of-the-season about the play. It was hard and exciting between two well-matched teams.

Castleford led at the break through two tries by Fenton, one by Joyner and a goal by Burton, against tries for Wakefield by Fletcher and Rayne and two goals by Smith. In the second half Fenton ran in two more tries, and Riggs got a try for Wakefield with two goals by Smith before Burton's match winner.

Wigan ended their League fixtures with a flourish against unlucky Workington who had Bowman dismissed for a high tackle after half an hour. Wigan failed to get the 31 clear points they needed to secure a top four place in the league.

The match was one-sided, with Wigan's lively pack well led by O'Neill and Hollingsworth dictating play. Wigan's backs were also on top and they paved the way for first-half tries by Regan, Dootson and O'Loughlin which, with four goals from Fairbairn, put Wigan 17—6 ahead at half-time. Workington scored three penalty goals by MacCorquodale in the first half and he landed another penalty in the second half.

Club on strike are excluded

Featherstone Rovers, who finished seventh in the first division table, but whose players are now on strike, were yesterday excluded from the premiership by an emergency meeting of the Rugby League executive committee in Leeds. Warrington, who were ninth, will take Featherstone's place in the competition, but will be classed as the eighth club, with Leeds moving up to seventh. Warrington will travel to Widnes in the first round, which will be played next Saturday; Leeds will play at Bradford Northern the following day.

The Featherstone strike is over the reinstatement of Gordon Appleyard as chairman.

Hockey

East without tears with French in command

By Sydney Friskin

East 4 Comb Services 1

The weekend festivities connected with the 50th anniversary of Bury St Edmunds hockey club gave way to more serious activities yesterday. In a lively prelude to the divisional tournament to be held at Aldershot next weekend, East forgot absent friends and had sufficient strength to beat Combined Services comfortably.

East, showing more poise and enterprise deserved victory yesterday, but three goals came from penalty strokes, two of which were awarded when a short corner might have sufficed. The first was converted by Westcott about midway in the first half. It ended an attacking spell by Combined Services who began their assault with a powerful reverse stick shot by Siddall, Hurst saving at the expense of a long corner. Ten minutes before half-time Services looked dispirited when Westcott converted his second penalty stroke.

Draper brought Services back into the game by converting a short corner early in the second half, only to see Barber score from a similar award within a couple of minutes.

The third penalty stroke for East was well struck by Dauban, after which Services launched several strong attacks with May running well on the left without much support.

EAST: J. A. Hurst (St Albans); P. Barber (Peterborough), S. Graves (Reading) (sub, M. Swayne, Beckenham), M. Gallimore (Camb Univ), P. Brooker (Blueharts), N. Boddington (Chelmsford), D. G. Westcott (Oxford Univ), M. A. Dauban (Pelicans), J. G. French (Westcliff, captain), G. Hayward (Broxbourne, sub, R. Ashby, St Albans), P. Mager (Broxbourne).

COMBINED SERVICES: Cpl P. Ogle (RAF); Fl Lt J. Marshall (RAF), PO I. M. Draper (RAF), Fl Lt R. Bennett (RAF), Lt R. Martin (Royal Marines), J Tch L. Clinton (RAF), Capt K. A. Boulter (RAEC, Sub Lt R. Evans Royal Navy), OEA1 D. Siddall (RN), Cpl R. Bates (RAF), Sgt P. Havlin (Royal Signals), PO PTI1 J. May (RN).

Umpires: Major G. M. Gadd (RAPC), A. Watson (Eastern Counties).

Although beaten 4—1 in the main Festival match, Bury St Edmunds stood up well in the second half to a strong team raised by John Ivens, a former England manager. The highlights included two brilliant goals by Neale and a stylish penalty stroke conversion by Turner for Bury. The remaining goals were from short corners by Barber and Long. At East Grinstead, Trojans regained the South League Championship.

Snooker

Two former champions reach semi-final

Fred Davis, a former champion, beat the London based Irishman, Patsy Fagan, 13—10 in a quarter-final round of the World professional snooker championship, sponsored by Embassy, at Sheffield on Saturday.

Eddie Charlton, the Australian champion, won the last five frames to beat Cliff Thorburn of Canada, 13—12. Thorburn led 10—6 overnight and took two of the first four frames today to lead, 12—8. He required only one of the last five frames to go through to a semi-final against Ray Reardon, also a former champion.

But Charlton, as he did in his first round match against Willie Thorne (Leicester), forced back to level 12—12 and made a break of 67 in taking the deciding frame. Earlier Reardon won the first three frames of his final period to complete a 13—6 won over another Canadian, Bill Werbeniuk.

Quarter final round: R. Reardon (Market Drayton) beat B. Werbeniuk (Canada), 13—6. Final period, frame scores (Reardon first): 84—20, 133—4, 76—40; F. Davies (Stourport) beat P. Fagan (Clapton), 13—10. Final period scores (Davis first): 75—30, 90—45, 62—44, 45—83, 32—?, 31—57, 52—42.

For the record

Hockey

SOUTH LEAGUE: Play-offs: Trojans ?, Lyons 1; Havant 0, Tunbridge Wells ?; Marden Russets 1, Indian Gymkhana ?; Tunbridge Wells 1, Marden Russets 1; Indian Gymkhana 0, Trojans 0; Lyons 2, Havant 2; Marden Russets 1, Trojans 4; Havant 3, Indian Gymkhana 1; Lyons 1, Tunbridge Wells 0; Indian Gymkhana 2, Tunbridge Wells 1; Marden Russets 0, Lyons 2; Trojans 2, Havant 1; Havant 4, Marden Russets 2; Tunbridge Wells 1, Trojans 1; Indian Gymkhana 1, Lyons 0. Final placings: 1, Trojans, 8 pts; 2, Indian Gymkhana, 7; 3, Havant, 5; 4, Lyons, 5; 5, Tunbridge Wells, 4; 6, Marden Russets, 1.

Motorcycling

BRANDS HATCH: World championship meeting: 750 cc: Aggregate result: 1, K. Roberts (US); 2, J. Cecotto (Venezuela); 3, P. Pons (France); 4, S. Ditchburn. Overall position: 1, Cecotto, 40pts; 2, Roberts, 27; 3, S. Baker (US), 23. 350 cc: 1, T. Rutter; 2, D. Chatterton; 3, D. Huxley.

Cricket

KINGSTON (Jamaica): Jamaicans, 257 (M. Foster 63, R. Austin 58, J. Dujon 50; J. Higgs 5 for 72); Australians, 30 for 0.

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Stanley Cup: Quarter-final play-offs: Buffalo Sabres 4, Philadelphia Flyers 1, (Philadelphia lead 2-1).

Rugby League

FIRST DIVISION: Leeds 23, Warrington 15; St Helens 23, Hull Kingston Rovers 13.

Yesterday

FIRST DIVISION: Hull 18, Salford 4; Wakefield Trinity 17, Castleford 20; Wigan 33, Workington Town 15.

SECOND DIVISION: Huddersfield 15, Rochdale Hornets 18; Leigh 12, Barrow 9; Whitehaven 24, Doncaster 7; York 26, Huyton 10.

Golf

HOUSTON: 195, A. Bean, 67, 62, 66; 201, G. Player, 64, 67, 70; 202, R. Murphy, 66, 66, 70; 203, H. Twitty, 69, 66, 68; 204, J. Renner, 71, 65, 68; 205, G. Littler, 69, 70, 67; G. Koch, 68, 71, 66; T. Kite, 72, 69, 64; O. Moody, 67, 68, 70; 206, L. Hinkle, 68, 69, 69; W. Kratzert, 70, 67, 69; G. Burns, 67, 67, 72.

RALEIGH (N. Carolina): American Defender tournament: 138, A. Alcott, 71, 67; D. Austin, 78, 62; 139, D. Massey, 69, 70; 140, O. Germain, 71, 69; H. Stacy, 70, 70; B. King, 70, 70; K. Hite, 69, 71; 141, P. Hayes, 72, 69; K. McMullen, 70, 71; K. Postlewait, 70, 71; 142, M. Mills, 69, 73; D. Rhodes, 68, 74. British scores: 147, M. Walker, 74, 73; 150, J. L. Smith, 74, 76.

INA, Japan: 265, Kuo Chie-Hsiung (Taiwan), 69, 66, 64, 66; 276, R. Byman (US), 68, 69, 71, 68; 279, H. Sugimoto, 69, 72, 67, 71; K. Shimada, 70, 70, 70, 69; 280, G. Marsh (Australia), 71, 68, 69, 72.

SPORT

Rugby Union

Hare's popularity and faultless punctuality inspire Leicester

By Gordon Allan

Whites are warned of their future

By Gareth Bowen

"Aberavon, you've got 'em rocking!" roared the ever-optimistic Mrs Mainwaring as her son's team staggered to defeat at Swansea by 39 points (two goals, five penalty goals and three tries) to three (one penalty goal). A superb final rehearsal, perhaps, for Swansea's Welsh Cup final against Newport next Saturday—especially as their opponents lost 13—9 at Bath.

But the all-whites may look back on this carefree afternoon with due circumspection: they fielded their strongest XV (except for stand-off David Richards), while Aberavon were without Shell and Bevan, that formidable half-back pairing, and their best forwards Martin and Richards, who were resting before the Welsh Rugby Union tour of Australia. In addition, there was the majestic return at full back after injury of Roger Blyth, who kicked 19 points and generally had one of those days when everything falls into place. Can he turn it on again for the final, including one monster penalty from his own half? And are Swansea's backs versatile enough to cope if Newport's pack rises to the occasion and wins a fairer share of the ball?

Next Saturday's game seemed uppermost in Swansea's thoughts during the first quarter when a lack of personal commitment gave Aberavon plenty of possession which their lackadaisical centres frittered away. Meanwhile, Blyth put Swansea nine points into the lead with three penalty goals—and his colleagues at last shook themselves together with two tries from Herdman and Huw Davies. Cosier kicked a penalty for Aberavon on half-time.

After the oranges, Aberavon capitulated as Wheel, Clegg, Moriarty and Trevor Evans decided to raise a sweat and motivate their splendid scrummaging and mauling machine.

Quick scores came from a try by Meredith, improved by Blyth, and that fleet-footed hooker, Herdman, pounced for his second try of the afternoon. Two more penalties and howitzer-like touch finding from Blyth were followed by the best movement of the game: Hugh Rees set off on an elegant side-stepping run down the right and moved inside to flip an accurate pass to Meredith, who crossed near the posts. Blyth converted—and Mrs Mainwaring, amid great good humour, made a gladiatorial exit to succour her lads, muttering something to the effect that it might not be that easy for Swansea at the National Stadium on Saturday.

ABERAVON: W. Lewis; B. Tobin, G. Rees, N. Hutchings, L. Keen, K. Cosiell, G. David; P. George, W. James, B. Lewis, W. Mainwaring, P. Bell, R. Davies, P. Clarke, P. Bernl.

Referee: K. Rowlands (Ynysybwl).

English day out at Twickenham

By Gordon Allan

Liverpool kick themselves for failing with penalties

By Tom Coohan

Orrell 21 Liverpool 3

Orrell's determined forwards played a big part in wresting the Lancashire Cup from Liverpool at Blundellsands yesterday. The score, 21 points (two goals, a dropped goal and two penalty goals) to three (penalty goal) gave them revenge for defeat by Liverpool in the final last year. Though not a great game, it was exciting.

Rugby Union

Services tournament

Army	16	RAF	6

Club matches

Bath	15	Newport	9
Bedford	19	Broughton Park	27
Birmingham	22	Pontypool	7
Bradford	37	Birkenhead Prk	10
Bridgend	74	Penarth	9
Bristol	18	Coventry	17
Camborne	3	Gloucester	16
Chester	0	Stourbridge	11
Cross Keys	6	Llanelli	20
Devonport	12	Bury	4
Eccles	3	Old Salians	13
Falmouth	4	S Wales Police	20
Gosforth	46	Hull & ER	6
Halifax	12	Vale of Lune	10
Headingley	8	Fylde	15
Heaton Moor	12	Blackburn	8
Leicester	21	Moseley	15
Leigh	21	St Helens	4
Maesteg	8	Pontypridd	14
Morley	15	New Brighton	24
Neath	31	Cardiff	13
Newbridge	0	Abertillery	7
Northampton	29	Waterloo	7
Northern	30	Sheffield	12
Orrell	0	Sale	8
Percy Park	19	Wakefield	7
Plymouth Albion	25	Penzance & N	21
Roundhay	7	Manchester	3
St Ives	13	Ebbw Vale	18
Swansea	39	Aberavon	3
Tyldesley	49	Kendal	16
West Hartlepool	8	Middlesbrough	9
West Park	27	Old Edwardians	7
Widnes	23	Stoke	6
Wilmslow	7	Liverpool	9
Winnington Prk	17	Lymm	0

Final word belongs to the Army's drill instructor

By Michael Hardy

The Army had the last word in the Services championship on Saturday. By defeating the RAF by a goal, two penalty goals and a try (16 pts) to two penalty goals (6) at Twickenham, they ensured a triple tie, each of the Services winning one match, as they did last in 1975.

... their charge in what the textbook of military rugby can only describe as extended order, he tapped the ball and selected Bowles as the man most likely to score. He did.

After their surprise win over the Navy in a downpour last month—a victory well-deserved on the day—the RAF were disappointing. They had only to draw to take the championship, but their handling let them down so badly that even this was beyond them.

Their halves, Green and Pugh, who played so well against the Navy, were matched in all they did by Davies and Atkinson. When the RAF's chances came, they failed to take them.

ARMY: L/Cpl B. J. Abbott (REME); L/Cpl K. A'Hearne (RRW), Sgt D. Prowse (REME), Cpl S. B. Jackson (RANG), Cpl B. R. Reynolds (REME); Lt W. A. N. Atkinson (Duke of Wellington's Regt), Cpl G. Davies (Queen's Dragoon Guards); Cpl N. J. Gray (RE), Cpl R. J. Matthews (RE), Cpl M. Jenkins (RRW), S/Sgt P. Smith (RADC), Capt J. M. Bowles (RCT), Cpl G. O. W. Williams (Duke of Wellington's Regt), Capt A. J. Hoon (RE), Lt J. Baxter (RA).

RAF: A/C P. Bale (Brize Norton); Cpl M. Smith (Sealand), Cpl S. Grey (Uxbridge), Cpl R. Seward (Brize Norton), J/Tech S. Rogers (Scampton); Cpl A. Green (Northolt), Cpl K. Pugh (Scampton); SAC B. Dix (Stafford), Sgt A. McCrindle (Northwood), Cpl M. Jones (West Raynham), SAC J. Orwin (Brize Norton), Cpl C. Raynor (Brize Norton), SAC G. Still (Hereford), T/O N. Gillingham (Waddington), Cpl W. Jenkins (Stanmore Park).

Referee: R. C. Quittenton (London).

Swimming

English competitors have more cause for neurosis

By John Hennessy

Squash rackets

Mohibullah equal of Hunt in match-playing ability

By Rex Bellamy
Squash Rackets Correspondent

The world squash rackets champion, Geoffrey Hunt, ended his British season by beating Mohibullah Khan twice in less than 24 hours. The first match, at Manchester, was the final of the Lookers tournament. The second, at Wembley, was the climax of the professional challenge series sponsored by Jaguar, who make sports equipment.

The fact that both matches went to five games was a reminder that Mohibullah, supposedly nine years younger, is already Hunt's equal in match-playing ability except in terms of maturity, natural authority and fortitude (especially the mental kind). The fact that Hunt won them indicated that at 31 he remains the supreme squash athlete, the toughest competitor and the tidiest player. He is exercising a psychological superiority like that formerly established by Jonah Barrington.

Hunt will play a challenge match with Hidayat Jahan in Paris before flying to Toronto for a £14,000 tournament from May 1 to 6. The Canadians promoted last year's world amateur championship series and are strengthening their allegiance with the international game, at the expense of their traditional links with the United States version of squash. After Toronto, Hunt will have a well-earned family holiday in Los Angeles and Tahiti before returning to Melbourne.

Hunt beat Mohibullah 5—9, 4—9, 9—1, 9—7, 9—4 at Wembley on Saturday. The first two games suggested that the older player was taking longer to recover from their draining match at Manchester. But Hunt, pallid and drawn though he looked, had too much pride to accept defeat—especially in straight games. In the third game he asked more of himself and more of Mohibullah. Apprehension became evident in the Pakistani's eyes. Weariness became evident in his squash, particularly in a familiar rash of errors on the forehand.

The fourth game was arduously close. Both men were fighting fatigue as well as each other. At 6—6 a drop shot brought Hunt to his knees and he momentarily stayed down, as if craving rest above everything else. But Mohibullah looked just as tired. The contest had become a test of wills. Mohibullah led 7—6 before losing the fourth game. He led 4—1 in the fifth. Then a feeble drop went down and a fine match ended tamely with a burst of careless errors from Mohibullah.

Angela Smith beat Lyle Hubinger 10—8, 6—9, 9—2, 9—1 in the corresponding women's match, sponsored by Pretty Polly, the tights company. This was the first such professional series for women anywhere in the world. The four players who took part earned slices of a £960 cake and Miss Smith won a total of £360.

Cycling

Fretwell's sprint ensures victory for Konecny

By Michael Coleman

Despite an all-day assault by the entire Russian team in the hills, Vlastibor Konecny, aged 21, from Brno, held on to his yellow jersey to win the Sealink International five-day cycle race which finished yesterday in Manchester.

... the points race, beat Zagretdinov to the final line as he had done on Saturday in Rhyl, ensuring overall victory for Konecny in the process.

Motor rallying

Times Interview

Sir Peter and the National

The back quarters of the National Theatre on London's south bank are a veritable warren of passages, rehearsal and dressing rooms, ramps, emergency exits, firedoors, odd little canteens, disconnected activities and a much beset stage door. But emerge on the north-east corner of the fourth floor and a carpeted calm envelopes the sanctum of the Director, Sir Peter Hall.

Picture windows and a terrace place him in possible signal lamp communication with his flat in the Barbican towering above the City. The shelves are a disordered jumble of reference books. Indoor plants project their rubbery tentacles. Stills from his productions, blow-ups of Dame Peggy Ashcroft and Sir John Geilgud, a Giles cartoon of Akenfield and a photograph of Anton Bruckner—"he's a God"—plaster the walls. On the desk, the script of the newest Pinter ploy.

After the first full year of operation of its three theatres, the National has a deficit of £400,000, half of it made up of additional labour costs caused by the non-functioning of the stage machinery. Sir Peter defends this record vigorously. "The £400,000 is made up of loss of income because the theatres weren't given to us when they said they were going to give them to us—so we didn't make the money—and also in increased labour costs and in fitting out the stages.

"The point I do want to stress is that we have made more money at the box office than we were budgeted to make. Over two million people have been through the place. When they hear the National Theatre is in the red, people think two things—either we are not giving the people what they want—and I answer that by saying that over 90 per cent of seats sold with the kind of repertoire that we have done, which has in no sense been safe, has been remarkable—or you are spending too much on doing the plays. Our production costs are 4 per cent of our total expenditure.

"I don't believe that when this building was planned in the affluent 'sixties, government or the Arts Council actually considered what they were building in terms of running costs and maintenance. I suppose if they had they probably wouldn't have built it, I don't know. The fact remains that well over a million, actually it's about £1½m now, a year goes on uncuttable expenses in maintaining this building and in running it. It's about a third of our expenditure which we can't do anything about. If I can give you another crude statistic, the heating and lighting bill, the energy bill, in this theatre is approximately the same as the production costs. This puts it in perspective.

"What I am fighting for is an adequate funding of the building, which has got nothing to do with the people who are trying to make theatre. I happen to know that the direct costs of doing plays at the Royal Shakespeare Company and at the National Theatre are approximately the same. It would be surprising if they weren't, we all live in the same profession, we are all friends. In indirect costs, which is 525,000 sq ft of modern air-conditioned building, which is us, we are way ahead of the RSC. Most theatres' indirect costs are under 10 per cent of their operating budget. Ours are hitting the 30 to 33⅓ per cent mark. Until that's solved the National Theatre, in my view, whoever is running it, will remain a problem.

"Our production costs are less than any comparable theatre in the world and I'll stand by that. You cannot compare filling the Olivier stage with doing a play on a space, a quarter the size. If you compared our production costs with, say, an opera house, where the space is comparable, we would come out with flying colours. *The Madras House* cost about £30,000, which I though was cheap considering that there was no way of getting any scenery on to the stage except by building trucks."

You get the impression he is really rather relishing the battle. There is no sign of strain. The brown eyes are bright, the round face is unlined, although the musketeer's beard is now flecked with grey. He is taller and slimmer than you expect when he stands up, soberly dressed in a chocolate brown suite, a beige polo sweater and sand-coloured moccasins. The future, he feels, is assured.

"The interesting thing about the National Theatre is that it opened at a time when it was an embarrassment to everybody. The Arts Council, although they have backed us superbly and with great foresight about the future, didn't want it then because they were very short of money. There was a terrible recession. The West End theatre managers didn't want us because we changed the whole shape of the theatre, so they were suspicious. The rest of the subsidized theatre felt that we were going to take all the cake, so they didn't want us.

"Now in fact the opposite has occurred. The coming of the National Theatre has made it politically impossible for the Arts Council or the Government to cut other theatres and I think I could prove that. The National Theatre has actually ensured the rest of the theatre, because the National Theatre was given new money, not enough money, but new money, which I don't believe would have gone to anybody else.

"The right wing press found the traditional argument, you know, that a lot of artists were going to be wheeled into a huge, expensive, computerized toy and were going to spend a lot of money, so they were suspicious. The left wing press had changed since the National Theatre was planned. For 150 years to build a national theatre was considered radical, progressive, of the left. Shaw, Granville Barker, fought like fury to have a national theatre for that reason, but after about '68 a new philosophy developed in the left. They were anti-institution, anti-metropolis and anti-buildings, buildings above everything. So the left wing press saw us as a new elitist instrument of the establishment. They didn't want us.

"This has been like fighting a war. It's been very invigorating and very exciting. One's got a lot of wounds and a lot of knocks but a lot of satisfaction and a lot of support. I believe the building is here to stay. It's about the only modern building that's been put up in London since the war that future generations will look at as a work of art. Denys Lasdun has delivered us three theatres which actually work, which is a colossal achievement because most theatres don't work, or they don't work for years and years. I am not speaking about the stages, I am speaking about the audience sitting in it looking at an actor.

"The place is in a proper sense a community centre. Over 500 people a day use it who are not coming to plays. There are exhibitions, music, readings, platform plays, the place is hopping all day. Now that has been a dream of all art centres. Immodestly I would say we have done it. We don't open at 6.30 and say please wear your dinner jacket and it costs £10. You can still enter this theatre for 25p. You have to stand, but it is 25p. You can get a jolly good seat for £1 and the total number of cheap seats here is the total capacity of the Old Vic.

"What one's talking about is the fact that anything that is very definite, and whatever the National Theatre is it is very definite, automatically arouses strong feelings of support and of opposition. There is an opposition to the National Theatre, with a capital "O", just as there is an opposition to the BBC or the Post Office or public education, any of the British institutions."

Three theatres in the same building to fill simultaneously is a fearsome responsibility. Sir Peter sees their role in clear cut distinction: "Mainly we've been saying that the Olivier is our classic house, so that's where we do *Volpone* and *Hamlet*, the *Plough & The Stars*, *The Madras House*. Occasionally we have been able to do a play which is not a recognized classic, but which we think needs the Olivier theatre.

"We did *Tales from the Vienna Woods* of Horvath which we thought needed that space and we were proved right. We are doing later this year Edward Bond's new play called *The Woman*, which is about the Trojan war, or his interpretation of the Trojan war. It's the first play that has come to us—when I use we and us it's not royal, it's the associate directors of the theatre—that absolutely stood up and said 'I need the Olivier space'.

"The Lyttelton we have been running mainly as the theatre for the new play which we think will reach a wide audience. One of the problems of subsidized repertoire theatre in the past has been that for a living writer the gains coming from it were quite small. He only perhaps gets—on average a couple of performances a week and therefore mostly new plays have transferred to the West End in order to make the author money.

"But since we've had the Lyttelton it's been possible, with *Weapons of Happiness*, with *Plunder*, with *No Man's Land*, now with David Hare's new play *Plenty*, with Ayckbourn's play, *Bedroom Farce*, with Bolt's *State of Revolution*, and there's a new Harold Pinter coming in the autumn, to give an author the benefits of the National Theatre, perhaps a larger sized company than he could expect commercially and a reasonable audience return. We do though try to insure the Lyttelton by doing the odd classic, which needs a proscenium as a banker against the new work, which is always a risk.

"The Cottesloe has only in the last four or five months begun to get going. It was the last to open and we tried in the first year to have as many visitors as we could because part of the policy at the beginning was that the National Theatre as a facility should be available to the rest of the theatre, if they wanted to use it, and that worked really tremendously well. There were an enormous number of visiting productions last year and I think it did some good to all of them. But that is threatened now too.

There are those who assert that subsidized national theatre should challenge contemporary values and expect Sir Peter with his record of several left wing productions during his time with the Royal Shakespeare Company, to be in the vanguard. This lobby feels he has gone over to the establishment, an accusation he rejects: "Correction—*Weapons of Happiness* was considered by some as outright communist propaganda. I didn't consider it so. *No Man's Land* was considered by some to be an utterly negative, immoral play, with very bad language. I did not consider it so. David Hare's new play *Plenty* will, in my estimation, be considered very provocative because it is about the state of England since the war. I don't accept that. One feels, and I think rightly, in the middle.

"There are those who believe that a National Theatre should be stuffy and should only do the classics and should be a kind of lending library of the past. I don't believe that. I also believe that you can't look at the past in the theatre unless you are very alive to the present, what your audiences are alive to.

"I was very proud that we made *Tamberlaine* live. It was critically better received than the play has ever been. The *Goldoni* was very badly received and was a failure. *Tales from the Vienna Woods* was an enormous success critically, so was *Volpone*, also *The Madras House*. *The Plough & The Stars* and the *Country Wife* had mixed receptions, some very good, some bad, and *The Cherry Orchard* has been well received. Now for a year's work that is actually pretty extraordinary.

"It is also extraordinary that we've played to over 90 per cent business with a repertoire like that, because there weren't any obvious banker in it. There was not the central Shakespeare or the central Shaw. *The Madras House*, the Harley Granville Barker play, has never been a success, ever. We turned it into a very big success, 70,000 people saw it. *Volpone* of Ben Jonson is one of the great classics of our heritage but I never would call it a commercial proposition. It is out of the obvious run of commercial classical success and yet nearly 130,000 people came to see it.

"The Lyttelton of course has been open longer. *Happy Days*, the Beckett play, was a great critical success, so was *No Man's Land* of Pinter's, *Plunder*, the Ben Travers play, and *Watch It Come Down*, the Osborne play had a mixed press. *Blithe Spirit*, *State of Revolution*, the Bolt play, and Ayckbourn's *Bedroom Farce* had a very good press.

"You can't fool the public and if the public doesn't come it is because you are not delivering. That's not to say the public is not sometimes behind the taste of the new writer. It takes time for them to acclimatize to a Beckett or a Pinter. But on the whole you have to listen to them.

"I am unhappy that we cannot have a large enough repertoire and a large enough company to tour regularly, because the original policy was that one group was nearly always out on tour. As soon as you start cross-casting between plays, so that you make maximum use of your actors and of the understudies you leave the home base empty.

"I am unhappy about the fact that we have to put on plays for four or five performances in blocks. We can't play *The Cherry Orchard* on Monday and *Volpone* on Tuesday and *The Cherry Orchard* again on Wednesday and *The Madras House* on Thursday, because the stages aren't finished and they don't work and the labour costs of actually moving from one play to another are enormous. We are not playing genuine repertoire and therefore a play, instead of being available for one performance each week is often out for 10 days or a fortnight, because it plays for four and then three other plays play for four. I don't like that.

The current fad argument of "elitism" is also directed against him personally. There are disappointed elements who accuse him of being a dictator, of concentrating all decisions at the top. He dismisses the accusation wearily: "I believe that a theatre has to be run by one person. I don't think there's ever been a decent theatre that wasn't. Unless that person is checked and governed by colleagues, who have a lot of weight and a lot of pressure to bring to bear on him, he's putting himself in a very dangerous position and won't do good work. I don't believe I have done that.

"It is not true that decisions are only taken at the top. I would say myself that the faults of this organization in its early stages have been that the delegation of responsibility through the management heads has been too great. Because of the pressure of opening, there often has been too little centralization. I have a body of associate directors who can throw things at me and say what they like.

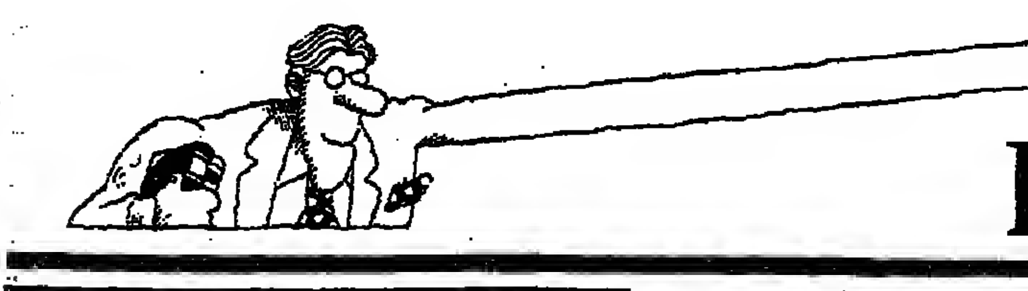
The career of this son of a Suffolk railway station master has been the theatrical phenomenon of the modern generation. He ran the Oxford Playhouse, the Arts Theatre and the Royal Shakespeare Company before taking over the National. What comparisons does he draw? "This is much, much more wearing. I thought the RSC was a full time job but this has been really extraordinary, the hours I put in even now.

"I remember when I started with the RSC in 1959 there was a good deal of mockery and criticism in the media, saying 'what makes you think you can possibly form a permanent ensemble', or 'what makes you think you can possibly make a house style for Shakespeare' all those things. It was very tough, particularly as any reputation I did have in those days was concerned with doing modern plays rather than classics. Then in 1963 one suddenly woke up and found that we were the established classical church. The difficulty of the RSC was that we didn't then have a grant at all.

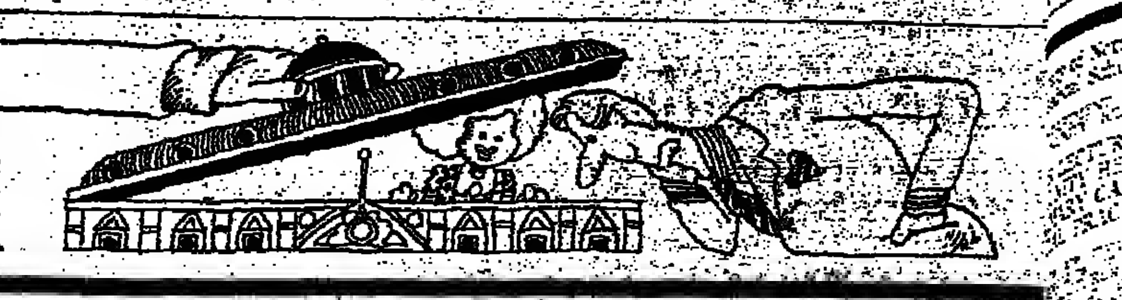
"The problem here so far has been that most of my energy has been devoted to management and politics and the building, trying to get the building funded, trying to make it acceptable. I feel that one hasn't started to get the aesthetic of the thing together because of all the stress and strain that has been on all of us in actually getting the building open. So it's been more like a bloody battle so far. I suppose, if I am honest, so far less aesthetically satisfying. But if you'd asked the same question in 1962 and said 'can you compare your years at the RSC so far with running the Arts Theatre' I would have given you the same reply, because things were pretty bloody at the RSC in 1962, they only cheered up later."

His present contract runs out in 1980. Will he stay on, if asked? "I don't know, I've got another three years. I think it's too soon to know. The first phase of the job has been getting it open and getting the public to accept it. I hope in the next three years I can change the tide and if I do maybe that'll be the time to stop. I don't know, I can't tell yet. I'll be 50 then.

Brian Connell



Public & Educational



City of London Polytechnic

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

The City of London Polytechnic has the following vacancies available from 1st September, 1978. Candidates should have a good Honours degree in an appropriate subject and be prepared to register for a higher degree with the CNAA.

Biological Sciences
Neurophysiology—An investigation into the central nervous control of buoyancy and vertical movement in fish.

Chemistry
The projects being offered are:
CW and FT NMR studies of organometallic and coordination compounds
Inorganic derivatives in synthetic carbohydrate chemistry
Dipolar organophosphorus reagents
Free radical reactions in the vapour phase and fast reactions in solution
Medicinal chemistry
Development of a spectroscopic assay for skin photodamage
Spectroscopic study of complexes in solution
Electrochemistry and photochemistry of 'onium salts and ylides

Economics and Banking
Identification and measurement of economies of scale in U.K. life assurance companies. An energetic and well-qualified researcher is required to join a small team of economists which is investigating the behaviour of financial institutions and markets. The candidate should have some research experience and the ability to undertake quantitative analysis on his or her own initiative.

Geology
The projects being offered are:
(1) The Palynological studies of the Purbeck/Wealden deposits
(2) Volcanology of the Tayvallich lavas and associated igneous rocks, South West Argyll
(3) Tectonic strain and deformation mechanisms in the rocks of Valdres, South Norway.

Geography/Sociology
A Geographer or Sociologist with some training in spatial analysis, is required to develop a project on the location and use of Further Education centres in Inner London as part of a joint programme of research in Community Studies and the Geography of Education. The successful candidate will have some experience of statistical techniques in the Social Sciences.

Mathematics and Statistics
Preference will be given to candidates interested in Classical Fluid Dynamics or in Discrete Event Simulation. The appointment will be in the first instance for two years, but may be extended to three years.
Application forms for this post may be obtained from the Secretary, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, 31 Jewry Street, London EC3N 2EY.

Physics
One post available for work in either
The effect of oxygen on Pb-Sn-Te alloy junctions or
The optical, magnetic and dielectric properties of particulate dispersions.
Salary is £2,778 a year in the first year of appointment, rising to £2,859 in the second year and to £2,940 in the third year, including London Allowance of £402 (under review).

RESEARCH FELLOW

Metallurgy and Materials
A vacancy exists for a metallurgist with a doctoral degree who is interested in carrying out work in the field of hydrogen embrittlement of high-strength steels. Previous experience in this area is essential and the post is tenable for one year, with effect from 1st September, 1978.
Salary is £3,822 including London Allowance of £402 (under review).

Please apply in writing, giving full curriculum vitae and the names and addresses of two referees, to the Assistant Secretary, City of London Polytechnic, 117/119, Houndsditch, London EC3A 7BU.

MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
RADIOBIOLOGY UNIT

Vacancies for Scientists

To study radiation effects on tissues and whole animals including carcinogenesis.
Successful applicants would normally be well qualified in the biological sciences medicine or veterinary medicine and have several years post graduate experience. Work at the Unit covers a wide range of scientific interests concerned with radiation effects which are important in relation to protection against ionising radiations and radiotherapy. There is extensive accommodation and supporting staff for work work with experimental animals. Salary in accordance with age and experience on MRC scales which are similar to those applicable on University appointments.

Enquiries or applications with curriculum vitae and names of two referees to Dr. J. Vennart, Director, MRC Radiobiology Unit, Harwell, Didcot, OXON, OX11 0RD, by 31st May, 1978.

THE POLYTECHNIC OF NORTH LONDON
PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

There are vacancies for:

a C.A.S.E. research student

to work on thin film magnetic heads in collaboration with the Alan Clark research centre (Plessey). The normal S.R.C. scale of grants and conditions apply.

a Research Assistant

to work on one of the following projects:
Development of microwave discharge spectroscopic sources;
Characteristics of thin magnetic films;
Development of special nuclear particle counters for low background studies.
Salary Scale: £2,778-£2,940 (including London Allowance). Duties include six hours teaching per week. A suitably qualified candidate may be allowed to register for a research degree.
Applications should be made as soon as possible to the Head of the Department of Physics, Polytechnic of North London, Holloway, London N7 8DB, from whom further details may also be obtained.

NEW ZEALAND
University of Canterbury
CHRISTCHURCH

VISITING LECTURER IN GEOGRAPHY

Applications are invited for a Visiting Lectureship in Geography which arises from the absence of a permanent staff member for two years from 1 July 1978, to 30 June, 1980. Applicants may have research and teaching interests within the field of human geography, broadly defined so as to include man-environment relations.
The position is available for one person through the whole period: alternatively, two shorter-term visitors may be considered. The emolument for the position is in the range NZ$10,535 to $12,969 per annum. When the salary is being decided, due account will be taken of the appointee's travel costs.
Further information may be obtained by writing to Professor W. B. Johnston, Department of Geography, University of Canterbury, Private Bag, Christchurch 1, New Zealand.

University of Birmingham
FACULTY OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY

CHAIR AND HEADSHIP OF THE DEPARTMENT OF IMMUNOLOGY

Applications are invited for the Chair and Headship of the Department of Immunology (formerly the Department of Experimental Pathology) which is vacant following the retirement of Professor P. G. H. Gell.
Salary in the clinical professorial range, maximum £10,689, plus superannuation.
Further particulars obtainable from the Registrar, University of Birmingham, P.O. Box 363, Birmingham, B15 2TT, to whom applications (12 copies: 1 from overseas applicants) naming three referees, should be sent by 16 June 1978.

University of St. Andrews
DEPARTMENT OF ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY

Applications are invited for the post of

LECTURER

in Ecclesiastical History in St. Mary's College. Preference will be given to candidates with specialist qualifications in 18th and 19th century Ecclesiastical History.
Salary at appropriate point on scale £3,660 to £7,308 per annum, starting salary probably not above £5,282; plus FSSU/USS.
Applications (two copies preferably in typescript) with the names of three referees should be lodged by 18th May, 1978, with the Establishments Officer, The University, College Gate, St. Andrews, Fife, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

London School of Economics
SECRETARIES FOR THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

Our teaching departments offer Secretaries the opportunity to become involved in a variety of secretarial work concerned with the School's teaching and research activities, as well as bringing them into daily contact with students and academic staff. We have interesting vacancies in the ANTHROPOLOGY and SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY Departments requiring intelligent secretaries with good shorthand and typing speeds. Starting salary in the range £2,759-£3,311 (reviewable this summer) according to age, qualifications and experience and excellent working conditions.
Why not telephone Sheila McKenzie on 01-405 7686 Ext. 672 for an application form or write to the Assistant Personnel Officer, LSE, Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE.

CITY OF LONDON POLYTECHNIC

School of Business Studies
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTANCY AND TAXATION

Senior Lecturer

Applicants must be professionally and/or academically qualified. An interest in Public Sector Accounting would be an advantage.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS AND BANKING

Senior Lecturer in Business Studies

Applications are invited from graduates in Business Studies, Economics, Accountancy or an allied discipline to take academic and administrative responsibility for courses leading to Business Education Council awards at higher national level.
The successful candidate will be expected to teach economics or banking and finance to honours degree level and will be encouraged to participate in the Department's expanding research programme.

Lecturer/ Senior Lecturer in Economics

Applications are invited from graduates with good honours degrees in Economics or related disciplines preferably with a specialism in Industrial Economics.
It is expected that the Department will be able to offer two posts one of which may be for a temporary period of two years.
The successful candidates will be expected to have experience of teaching at honours degree level and are likely to possess Masters degrees in an appropriate field of study.
As well as teaching on the Economics and Business Studies courses and within the Modular Degree and Diploma Scheme, active participation in the Department's expanding research programme will be expected.
Salary: Lecturer II – £4,146-£6,357 (under review), including London Allowance and pay supplements.
Senior Lecturer — £5,925-£6,849 bar — £7,311 (under review), including London Allowance and pay supplement.
Further details and application forms can be obtained from the Assistant Secretary, City of London Polytechnic, 117/120 Houndsditch, London EC3A 7BU.
Application forms to be returned by 5th May, 1978.

SIXTEEN WEEKS HOLIDAYS with pay!

Young Maths teacher needed from beginning of September to work with boys in the 10/12 age range; some additional periods in English and geography involved. The post also entails assisting with boys sports (rugby, soccer, cricket in the appropriate seasons)—twice a week, weather permitting! Great kids, pleasant atmosphere (usually!), young colleagues, reasonable salary. Previous teaching experience is not essential, but applicants must be qualified (teacher trained and/or graduates).
If you are seriously interested, reckon you are what we need and would like a demanding and hopefully satisfying commitment—please either telephone

435 0316

or write to the following address for an appointment—please include your own phone number.
The Headmaster
St. Anthonys'
90 Fitzjohn's Avenue, Hampstead, N.W.3.
References will be needed please

DUBAI COLLEGE

A new International Private School based on the British system for children 11-18 years, working towards CSE, PSS, "O" and "A" level GCE. Suitably qualified and experienced staff are sought for the following posts:

SECOND MASTER
PART TEACHING—UP TO £7,600

ASSISTANT STAFF
FOR ALL USUAL SUBJECTS PLUS MUSIC, DRAMA, SPORT ETC £4,800-£6,000

Salaries are tax free

Air fares and accommodation included. Staff are expected to involve themselves fully in pastoral care, sport and leisure activities in accordance with normal British Private School traditions.
Interviews in London 18th-20th May. Send fullest CV, photograph and telephone number to the HMs Secretary, 9 Hanover Terrace, London, NW1.

University of Newcastle Upon Tyne
HENDERSON HALL

Applications are invited from men and women, for the post of

RESIDENT DOMESTIC BURSAR

in this residence for 329 students. The appointment is tenable from 1st July, 1978, or as soon as possible thereafter. Candidates should be experienced and suitably qualified to direct the housekeeping and catering.
Salary will be at an appropriate point on the scale £2,906 to £4,268 per annum, according to age, qualifications and experience. Membership of the appropriate University superannuation scheme will be required.
Further particulars may be obtained from the warden, Henderson Hall, Redhall Drive, Newcastle upon Tyne NE7 7UY. Applications (three copies) giving full details of age, qualifications and experience with the names and addresses of three referees, should be lodged with the Registrar, The University, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 7RU, not later than 19th May, 1978. Please quote reference T.

URGENTLY NEEDED PART/FULL TIME

BUREAUCRACY SHOOTER,

effective administrator (e.g., retired Bank Manager, Naval Officer) by a small S.W. London International Chemical Company. Required to relieve overburdened Senior Management from dealing with government departments, state agencies, tax queries (co-operating with firm's accountants), insurance needs and to make sense of U.K. and E.E.C. legislation. Integrity, determination, clarity of thought, simplicity in communication, common sense, commercial ability and patience essential. Appropriate appreciation/compensation. Write M.D., Box 1307 K, The Times.

Position open to both male and female.

University of Exeter
TUTOR

Applications are invited for a post of TUTOR in the Department of Economic History (Ref: 7144). Preference to candidates specialising in both British economic and social history since 1760.
The post is tenable for one year from 1 October, 1978, and is open to men and women equally.
Salary: £3,189 p.a.
Further particulars from Miss Doreen Watson, Administrative Assistant (Appointments), University of Exeter, Exeter EX4 4QJ, to whom applications (three copies) should be ...

University of Otago
DUNEDIN, NEW ZEALAND

DIRECTOR OF UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

The Council of the University of Otago invites applications for appointment to the position of Director of University Extension.
The Council hopes to appoint a candidate of academic attainment, with administrative experience, with imagination to gauge community needs, and with initiative in devising ways of meeting them.
Salary: The appointment carries academic status and the salary will be as for an Associate Professor (i.e. NZ$19,101 per annum). A suitably qualified candidate could be appointed at a salary in the professorial range (i.e. NZ$20,804 to $26,481 per annum).
Further particulars are available from the Secretary General, Association of Commonwealth Universities (Appts), 36 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PF, or from the Registrar of the University.
Applications close on 31 May, 1978.

The Schools of King Edward the Sixth in Birmingham

Required for 1 January, 1979.

HEAD

King Edward's Camp Hill School for Girls

A Voluntary Aided Grammar School (Group 10—Roll 650)

The Governors invite applications for this appointment.

Further details and application forms may be obtained from I. R. Walkington, Clerk to the Governors, Foundation Office, The Schools of King Edwards the Sixth in Birmingham, Edgbaston Park Road Birmingham B15 2UD. The closing date for applications is 16 May, 1978.

University of Nottingham
Department of Chemistry

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

The department will have a number of SRC quota; SRC CASE and other research grants in Organic, Inorganic and physical Chemistry from 1st October, 1978, for suitably qualified graduates who wish to study for the Ph.D. degree.
Further details are available from:
Professor C. C. Addison, Head of department, Department of Chemistry, University of Nottingham, Nottingham ... 2RD.

DIRECTOR

SSRC Research Unit on Ethnic Relations

Applications are invited from individuals with considerable research and research management experience in ethnic relations or related fields to fill the above post on a full-time basis, following the return of the present Director, Professor Michael Banton, to full-time University work in August 1978.

Although the Unit is now at the University of Bristol, its future location, which will be in an academic institution, will be determined after discussion with the new Director.

Salary will be in the range for University Professors and the Council has its own non-contributory superannuation scheme. An appointment on secondment would be considered.

Further details may be obtained from Mr. David Farmer, SSRC, 1 Temple Avenue, London, EC4Y 0BD, to whom applications should be submitted by 31 May, 1978.

Social Science Research Council SSRC

CAREERS
HEAD OF DEPARTMENT
ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL, GUILDFORD
(formerly Voluntary Controlled, now HMC Independent: 630 boys, 200 in Sixth Form)

Required in September: a graduate to take charge of Careers guidance. A thorough understanding of university entrance requirements is essential. Willingness to play an enthusiastic part in the life of the School, both inside and outside the classroom, is important. Applicants must be qualified to teach an academic subject.
Salary: Burnham plus £150 London fringe allowance. Scale 3 available for suitably qualified and experienced candidate.
Applications (no forms) quoting two referees should be submitted as soon as possible to the Headmaster.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON
APPOINTMENT OF
VICE-CHANCELLOR

The University wishes to appoint a Vice-Chancellor in succession to Professor L. C. B. Gower, who is retiring on 30 September 1979.
Persons interested in the appointment, or who wish to submit names for consideration, are invited to write in confidence to the

Chairman of the Council,
Dr. S. E. Clotworthy, C.B.E.,
c/o the Secretary and Registrar,
The University, Highfield, Southampton SO9 5NH

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

The Governors of Bristol Cathedral School invite applications for the

HEADSHIP

which becomes vacant on 1st January, 1979, following the appointment of the present Head Master, Mr David Jewell, to the Headship of Repton.
The School is an ex-Direct Grant School reverting to independence, with 420 day boys between the ages of 11 and 18.
Details may be obtained from the Clerk to the Governors, Abbey Gate House, College Green, Bristol BS1 5TQ.

WESTMINSTER MEDICAL SCHOOL
Department of Community Medicine

Lecturer in Medical Statistics

Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in Medical Statistics tenable from 1st June, 1978. Candidates should have some experience in the application of statistical methods to epidemiological problems and an interest in Health Service planning. The person appointed would be expected to take part in the general work of the Department, including teaching, as well as pursuing their own research interests.
Salary on suitable point of scale £4,134-£7,758 (fully inclusive).
Applications should be made to the Secretary, Westminster Medical School, 17 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AN, from who further particulars may be obtained.

The Open University
PUBLISHING DIVISION

EDITOR

to work in the Faculty of Educational Studies

Starting salary in the region £4,800-£6,000 p.a.

We are seeking an experienced editor to work in the Faculty of Educational Studies to edit teaching texts. Some years spent in academic or related publishing are essential.
The Open University provides an interesting and stimulating environment in which to work. The Faculty offers courses in four disciplines: Administration and Management; the Curriculum; Psychology of Education; and Sociology of Education. Inter-faculty courses include the Economics of Education.
Benefits include excellent holidays, disturbance allowance and assistance with removal expenses, and membership of the Universities' Superannuation Scheme. The post is tenured and appointment will be made on the Grade 1A scale, with a maximum of £6,178 p.a. We do not anticipate that the starting salary offered will be less than £4,800.
Application forms and further particulars are available, by postcard request please, from The Personnel Manager (EPD4), The Open University, PO Box 76, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes MK7 6AL, or by telephone from Milton Keynes 63868 (24-hour answering service). Closing date for applications: 12th May, 1978.

University of London Institute of Education

LECTURER IN EDUCATION (ART EDUCATION)

Applications are invited for appointment as Lecturer to Education with special reference to Art Education (if possible from 1 September 1978), to share in the teaching of the initial and advanced courses in Art Education, as well as in the supervision of research work in the Art Department.
Applicants should be well qualified with teaching experience and good understanding of the disciplines involved in Art Education.
The Lecturer salary scale is £3,560-£7,308 plus £405 London Allowance and membership of USS.
Application forms and further particulars are available from Personnel, University of London Institute of Education, Bedford Way, London WC1H 0AL, quoting reference L Art. Completed forms should be returned by 22 May.

University College Botswana

Applications are invited for the post of

SENIOR LECTURER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

Applicants must have a minimum qualification of an M.Sc. Holders of Ph.D. in Chemistry with teaching experience in a University will be given preference. The appointee will be expected to take charge of teaching and demonstrating to classes at PART 1 as well as PART 2 level students. Preference will also be given to those who are qualified in Inorganic and structural Chemistry. The appointee will be expected to assume duty in July, 1978. Salary scale: R5,868 to R7,116 p.a. (£1 sterling equals P1.54). The British Government may supplement salaries in range £3,724 to £5,216 p.a. (sterling) for married appointee or £1,266 to £1,716 p.a. (sterling) for single appointee (currently under review and normally free of all tax) and provide children's education allowances and holiday visit passages, family passages; gratuity; medical aid scheme; study leave, various allowances. Detailed applications (two copies) with curriculum vitae and naming three referees to be sent to Registrar, University College Botswana, PB0022, Gaborone, Botswana, Southern Africa, by 16 May, 1978. Applicants resident in the U.K. should also send one copy to Mrs. A. Biggs, The Inter-University Council, 90/91 Tottenham Court Road, London, W1 P0DT. Further details may be obtained from either address.

University of Durham
COLLINGWOOD COLLEGE

Applications are invited for the post of

MASTER OR PRINCIPAL

of Collingwood College from 1 October, 1978, or such later date as may be arranged.
Collingwood College this academic year, has 412 men and women students. It is hoped that the successful candidate will take an active part in the work of an academic department.
The salary will be on the Professorial scale, together with the normal pension arrangements. The Master or Principal is required to live in college accommodation.
Applications (three copies), together with the names of three referees, should be sent not later than Friday, 26 May, 1978, to the Registrar and Secretary, Old Shire Hall, Durham DH1 3HP, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

AUSTRALIA

Applications are invited for the following posts, for which applications close on the dates shown. SALARIES (unless otherwise stated) are as follows:—Professor $A31,381; Senior Research Fellow $A20,882-$A24,967; Research Fellow $A14,987-$A19,562; Senior Lecturer $A20,104-$A23,432; Lecturer $A14,984-$A19,684; Senior Tutor $A12,915-$A14,795; Tutor Group IV (Hons) $A10,650-$A12,588. Further details, conditions of appointment for each post, method of application and application form, where applicable, may be obtained from the Association of Commonwealth Universities (Appts), 36 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PF.

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND
SENIOR LECTURER IN ANATOMY
Applications are invited from Dental or Medical graduates with teaching experience in Gross Anatomy. The successful applicant will be required to teach a regional anatomy course to Dental students. Preference may be given to graduates with research interests in oral biology. Pre-clinical loading of $A2,500 is payable.
3 June, 1978

LECTURER IN PSYCHOLOGY
Applicants should have research and teaching experience in cross-cultural psychology and preferably have a Ph.D. qualification. Persons with experience in community programmes deriving from cultural differences (with ethnic minorities, for example) are especially invited to apply.
26 June, 1978

SENIOR TUTOR IN COMMERCE (LEGAL STUDIES)
Suitable degree in law or commerce required. Appointee will conduct undergraduate tutorials in 2 of the following areas of Commercial Law: Introductory Commercial Law, Contracts, Company Law, Taxation, Trade Practices.
15 May, 1978

TUTOR GROUP IV IN GEOGRAPHY
To assist in undergraduate teaching, mainly at first level. Good honours degree required, preferably in physical geography.
15 May, 1978

LECTURER IN EDUCATION
Candidates should have a higher degree in education preferably a doctorate. A strength in general curriculum theory growing from special strength in an associated foundations discipline such as Cultural Foundations, Educational Psychology, Evaluation or in a specialist subject field is required. Evidence of substantial and successful teaching and of a strong interest in research or development is necessary.
29 May, 1978

UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA
LECTURER IN INFORMATION SCIENCE
The Department of Information Science has responsibility for the teaching of computer science, data processing and allied fields, within the University, and for research in these areas. Applications from persons with interest in any of these areas are welcome.
30 June, 1978

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW/ RESEARCH FELLOW DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
Applicants should have competence and be willing to pursue research in some branch of the philosophy of the social sciences, these being taken to include, for instance, anthropology, sociology, economics, politics, law, history, educational theory and social psychology. Applications for a one-year appointment will also be welcomed from candidates in Australasia, for instance, from academics holding appointments in other universities from which they can secure leave to pursue a specific piece of research in the philosophy of the social sciences.
16 June, 1978

CHAIR OF CHEMISTRY FACULTY OF SCIENCE
The University wishes to appoint to the Chair a leader in teaching and research irrespective of his or her specialised field of chemistry. The appointee will succeed Professor I. G. Ross, FRACI, FAA, who has been appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University but who retains a Chair in the Department. Appointment as professor is immediately to retiring age (65 years). The professor will also be appointed Head of the Department of Chemistry for an initial period to be determined by the University after consultation with the professor, with the possibility of reappointment for specific periods.
2 June, 1978

University of Calabar—Nigeria

Applications are invited for the posts of

(A) PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

and

(B) PROFESSOR OF SOCIOLOGY

in the FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES. The appointee would also be appointed HEAD of the Department. Applicants should be suitably qualified scholars with relevant experience in University teaching and publications. Experience of Leadership in an academic department would be an added advantage. Professors must be of sufficient standing to enable them to give guidance to a team with varied experiences, and will be expected to introduce and develop a postgraduate programme as soon as this is feasible. The posts offer challenging opportunities to those willing to accept the challenges and problems of a new institution and respond to them positively. Secondment for a 2/3 year period, from sister University would be welcomed.
Salary scale: N11,268-N12,420 per annum (approx. £9,549-£10,525 p.a. sterling) (£1 sterling=N.18). There may be supplementation of salary for married appointees of £2,160 p.a. (sterling) (reviewed annually and normally free of all tax) and provision of children's education allowances and holiday visit passages. 25% of salary contract addition (partly taxable) is payable which may be partially allocated for superannuation purposes. Family passages, various allowances, biennial overseas leave. Part furnished accommodation is provided as soon as possible and University provided accommodation or housing allowance in lieu.
Detailed application (2 copies) including a curriculum vitae and naming three referees to be sent by 30 May, 1978, to the Registrar, University of Calabar, P.M.B. 1115, Calabar, Nigeria. Applicants resident in U.K. should also send one copy to Mrs. A. Biggs, Inter-University Council, 90/91 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0DT. Further particulars may be obtained from either address.

University of Kent at Canterbury
HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH UNIT

SENIOR MEDICAL RESEARCH FELLOW
(WITH HONORARY CONSULTANT CONTRACT)

Applications are invited for the appointment of a full-time senior Medical Research Fellow in the Health Services Research Unit. Candidates should possess higher qualifications, preferably in community medicine, and should have had experience in research related to the development of health services. An honorary consultant contract in respect of a link with the Kent Area Health Authority will be sought for the successful applicant. Currently, the research interests of the Unit are concentrated on disability and rehabilitation, primary medical care, and factors affecting the utilisation of health services. There will be opportunity for the successful applicant to develop other research interests.
Applicants are invited to visit the Unit and to discuss details of the post with Professor M. D. Warren, director of the Unit (telephone Canterbury 66822, ext. 681). Further particulars about the Unit and application forms may be obtained from Mr. J. E. Reilly, Senior Assistant Registrar, The Registry, The University, Canterbury, Kent. Completed applications (three copies) together with a brief indication of research interests should be returned not later than Monday 22nd May, 1978. Please quote reference A15/78.

University of Hong Kong

SENIOR LECTURESHIP IN PATHOLOGY
(with special responsibilities in Oral Pathology)

Applications are invited for a post of Senior Lecturer in Pathology. Applicants must be Members of the Royal College of Pathologists or hold an equivalent higher qualification, and have relevant experience in Oral Pathology. A medical qualification would be advantageous.
Annual salary (superannuable) is:— HK$139,800-139,800—139,800—139,800—139,800—160,200. (£1=HK$8.90 approx.) Starting salary will depend on qualifications and experience.
Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from the Association of Commonwealth Universities (Appts), 36 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PF, or the Assistant Secretary (Recruitment), University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong. Closing date for applications is 15 May 1978.

University of Gezira—Sudan

Applications are invited for the following posts in the

FACULTY OF ECONOMICS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

1. PROFESSOR/ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MANAGEMENT)

2. PROFESSOR/ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR IN SOCIOLOGY

Applicants must have a higher degree and relevant teaching experience. Previous work in a developing country will be an advantage. Duties will include teaching classes in the Preparatory College. Salary scales (under review): Professor £S4,135 p.a.; Associate Professor £S3,625 p.a. (exclusive of cost of living allowance) (£S1=£1.84 sterling). The British Government may supplement salaries in range £2,982-£3,228 p.a. (sterling) for married appointees and £1,410-£1,650 p.a. (sterling) for single appointees (reviewed annually and normally free of all tax) and provide children's education allowances and holiday visit passages. Family passages; free housing; annual overseas leave. Detailed applications (2 copies) with curriculum vitae and naming 3 referees to be sent to the Head of the Executive Office, University of Gezira, PO Box 2667, Khartoum, Sudan, by 24 May, 1978. Applicants resident in the UK should also send one copy to Mrs. A. Biggs, Inter-University Council, 90-91 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0DT. Further details may be obtained from either address.

University of the West Indies
CAVE HILL CAMPUS

THE RONALD TREE FELLOWSHIP

Applications are invited from artists in the UK for the Ronald Tree Fellowship. This will be held for a period of up to twelve months at the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados. This Ronald Tree Memorial Award is intended to further interest in the creative arts in Barbados. Candidates will be required to prove that they have the necessary skills to foster and encourage the creative arts in Barbados.
Artists who consider themselves eligible should write for further information and application forms to: The Barbados High Commission, 6 Upper Belgrave Street, London, SW1X 8AZ, marking envelope "Ronald Tree Fellowship".
Closing date for applications is 15 May 1978.

The University of Hull
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

Applications are invited for appointment to a

LECTURESHIP IN GEOGRAPHY

from 1st October, 1978. Applicants' interests should lie within the fields of earth and environmental sciences and of quantitative and statistical methods. Preference may be given to candidates with experience in photogrammetry and/or climatology.
Salary scale: £3,660 to £7,308 per annum plus U.S.S. benefits. It is anticipated that the appointment will be made on the first three points of the scale.
Applications (six copies) giving details of age, qualifications and experience, together with the names of three persons to whom reference may be made should be sent by 16th May, 1978 to the Registrar, University of Hull, Hull HU6 7RX from whom further particulars may be obtained.

University of Durham
COMPUTER UNIT

SOCIAL SCIENCE ADVISER

Applications are invited from graduates with experience of statistical packages for a temporary appointment as Programming Adviser, for two years from 1 June, 1978, or as soon as possible thereafter. Duties include advising social scientists on computer applications, maintaining packages such as SPSS and OSIRIS on the NUMAC 370/168, and assisting with the general advisory service.
Salary at a point on Grade 1A £3,660-£6,178 or Grade II £5,954-£7,308 appropriate to age, qualifications and experience; superannuation.
Applications (3 copies), naming three referees, should be sent by 6 May, 1978, to the Registrar and Secretary, Science Laboratories, South Road, Durham DH1 3LE, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

HIGHGATE SCHOOL

MODERN LANGUAGES

A well-qualified Modern Linguist is required to teach FRENCH at all levels for September if possible but applications are welcome for January 1979. German is the main subsidiary language, but Russian and Spanish are also taught. Full c.v. with telephone number and names, telephone numbers and addresses of 2 referees to Headmaster

Highgate School
London N6 4AY
01-340 1524
by 6th May

Southampton THE UNIVERSITY

Applications are invited for a further

CHAIR OF ENGLISH

which is to be established during the academic year 1978/79. Further particulars are available from the Academic Registrar, The University, Southampton SO9 5NH, to whom applications (10 copies from applicants in the United Kingdom) should be sent before 19 May, 1978.

University of Dar es Salaam Tanzania

Applications are invited for the following posts in the INSTITUTE OF KISWAHILI RESEARCH:

1. SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW/RESEARCH FELLOW (GRAMMAR)

Applicants should be holders of a Ph.D. in Linguistics or equivalent. Specialist in Bantu Linguistics with a strong background in Kiswahili Linguistics plus research experience in areas of Syntax, Semantics and Morphology. The appointee will be required to initiate and lead research work in areas of Kiswahili Syntax, Semantics and Morphology, to supervise Junior researchers in research activities, to assist in the teaching of some courses in the Kiswahili Department as and when requested to do so.

2. SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW/RESEARCH FELLOW (LEXICOGRAPHY)

Applicants should be holders of a Ph.D. or its equivalent in General Linguistics, specializing in areas of Bantu phonology and morphology; research experience in monolingual and bilingual dictionaries. A background in Science subjects would be advantageous. The appointee will be required to initiate and lead research in bilingual dictionaries with Kiswahili as the target language, to develop Kiswahili technical terminology leading to a compilation of glossaries of technical terms and subject dictionaries, to conduct seminars and workshops in the development and use of technical Swahili.
Salary scales: Senior Research Fellow TS2,970-TS3,720 p.a.; Research Fellow TS2,430-TS2,970 p.a. (TS1 = £1.3 sterling). The British Government is unlikely to provide salary supplementation and associated benefits. F.S.S.U. Family passages; biennial overseas leave. Detailed applications (2 copies), including curriculum vitae and naming 3 referees, should be sent by air mail, not later than 9 May, 1978, to the Chief Academic Officer, University of Dar es Salaam, P.O. Box 35091, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Applicants resident in U.K. should also send one copy to Mrs. A. Biggs, Inter-University Council, 90/91, Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0DT. Further particulars may be obtained from either address.

University of Oxford

PROFESSORSHIP OF GENETICS

The electors intend to proceed to an election to the Professorship of Genetics, tenable in the Department of Biochemistry, which will fall vacant on 1 July, 1979. Under new arrangements recently agreed the headship of the Department of Biochemistry will in future be assigned by the Hebdomadal Council for periods of not less than five years, to one of three professors, namely the Whitley Professor of Biochemistry, the Iveagh Professor of Microbiology, and the Professor of Genetics; for the time being the headship of the department will be retained by the present Whitley Professor of Biochemistry for as long as he holds that office (or for such shorter period as, with his assent, may be specified by Council).
The stipend will be £10,200 a year, plus a pensionable allowance of £1,365 in respect of the duties of Head of the Department of Biochemistry during the periods in which the headship is assigned to the professor.
Applications (nine copies) naming three referees but without testimonials, should be received not later than 15 June, 1978 by the Registrar, University Offices, Wellington Square, Oxford OX1 2JD, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

The Polytechnic of North London
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

Applications are invited for the following post:

TEMPORARY LECTURER II IN COMPUTING

The Department requires a temporary lecturer for the 1978/79 academic session only.
Applicants should have a good honours degree or MBCS and research or industrial experience in data processing and/or real-time systems. Recent involvement in a large scale project involving distributed systems or a large data base would be an advantage.
The Department offers C.N.A.A. BSc (Honours) courses in Mathematics and Computing and in Statistics and Computing, an HND course in Mathematics, Statistics and Computing, and evening courses leading to a Postgraduate Diploma in Computing.
Salary Scale: £4,146-£6,... (including London Allowance).
Apply for further particulars and a form of application from Establishment Officer, The Polytechnic of North London, Holloway Road, N7 8DB. Telephone 01-607 2789, extn. 2018.
Closing date: 15th May, 1978.

University of Bristol
DEPARTMENT OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY

Applications are invited for the post of

LECTURER

in Obstetrics and Gynaecology. Salary £5,... per annum, according to qualifications and experience together with superannuation.
There are at present ... "A" U.S.S. attached to the post. The successful candidate may expect to be granted an honorary contract as senior registrar with the Avon Area Health Authority (Teaching). In addition to clinical duties the successful candidate will be required to assist with the teaching of medical students and midwifery students and will be given the opportunity for research. The appointee will be expected to take part in an on-call duty rota, usually being on-call one night in four. The post offers excellent opportunities for clinical and academic training and is recognised for M.R.C.O.G. training.
Applications giving details of qualifications and experience and including the names of three referees should be sent by ... May, 1978, to the Secretary, University of Bristol, Senate House, Bristol BS8 1TH, from whom further particulars may be obtained. Please quote reference ...

الأصل

Public & Educational

University of Nottingham Medical School

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

SENIOR LECTURER IN COMMUNITY HEALTH (PRIMARY CARE/ GENERAL PRACTICE)

University of Newcastle upon Tyne

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING

LECTURERSHIP

University of Surrey

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT (PERSONNEL)

University of Wales

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF SWANSEA

Senior Research Assistant

Applications are invited for the vacancy of SENIOR RESEARCH ASSISTANT IN THE DEPARTMENT OF METALLURGY AND MATERIALS TECHNOLOGY to work on an SRC sponsored project concerned with the study of vacancies in crystalline materials. The work involves the use of high precision lattice parameter measurements and laser interferometry, calling for a high level of experimental skill. Experience in a relevant field would be advantageous.

The appointment, which will commence from the soonest date that can be arranged, will be on a scale up to £5,058 per annum plus USS-USDPS benefits.

Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from the Personnel Officer, University College of Swansea, Singleton Park, Swansea SA2 8PP, to whom they should be returned by Friday, May 26, 1978.

University of Rhodesia

LECTURESHIP IN CLASSICS

University of Essex

COMPUTER OFFICER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE COMPUTING SERVICE

University College London

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Cranfield College of Aeronautics

LECTURER IN AIRCRAFT DESIGN

Applications are invited for the position of Lecturer in Aircraft Design. The work will include responsibility for the preparation of initial design studies of ...

University of Newcastle Upon Tyne

DEMONSTRATOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

University of Khartoum Sudan

PROFESSOR

University of Newcastle upon Tyne

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICS

TWO LECTURESHIPS

University of London

UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE AND SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION

MODERATOR IN SOCIOLOGY

University of Khartoum Sudan

5 LECTURESHIPS

Brunel University

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

University of Newcastle Upon Tyne

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY

A RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

University of Edinburgh

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

LECTURER

University of Stirling

COMPUTING SCIENCE

TEMPORARY LECTURESHIP

... years. The salary will be on the lower part of the Scale £3,660-£7,308.

Applications, together with the names of two referees, should be submitted by 19 May, 1978, to The Secretary (T), University of Stirling, Stirling, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

University of Aberdeen

CHAIR OF BACTERIOLOGY

Applications are invited for the above Chair which falls vacant on 1.10.78 upon the retirement of Professor A. Macdonald. Further particulars from The Secretary, The University, Aberdeen, with whom applications (2 copies), should be lodged by 31 May 1978.

TEACHER OF ENGLISH—direct method—required immediately by Inlingua Dusseldorf. Telephone 01-828 1061, ext. 27.

University of Hull

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

LECTURESHIP IN MUSIC

University of Exeter

SSRC POSTGRADUATE STUDENTSHIP

University College, Oxford

COLLEGE CHAPLAIN

University of Leicester

TUTORIAL ASSISTANTSHIPS IN HISTORY

University of Nottingham

LECTURESHIP

University of Aberdeen

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES

LECTURESHIP

Appointments Vacant

GENERAL VACANCIES

BEAUTIFUL SMALL HOTEL

In Notting Hill Gate seeks someone to care for reception and look after guests, part-time. Good salary.

Telephone 727 2777

LEADERSHIP

A man is needed, with tested ability with young people, to head one of 5 small group living units working closely with anti-social, adolescent boys. Accommodation is good for single and married people. Further details or enquiry. Send brief details to: John Whitwell (Staff), The Cotswold Community, Ashton Keynes, Nr. Swindon, Wilts.

GENERAL VACANCIES

SALES EXECUTIVE

with drive required by the Egon Ronay Organisation (Greencoat House, Francis St., London SW1), for marketing range of guide books in commercial, industrial and other unorthodox outlets, also for liaising with book trade. Salary dependant on experience, salesmanship and originality. Please send c.v. in confidence with availability date and suggested minimum starting salary.

MALE COOK REQUIRED

For 72ft. modern private yacht cruising Med., June to September. Previous sea experience preferred. Good English food. Excellent accommodation and wages. Apply: Mr. Holt, 01-930 1070.

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting of the Automobile Association will be held at the Savoy Hotel (Victoria Embankment Entrance), London, on 24th May, 1978, at 10.45 a.m., to receive the Report of the Committee, to adopt the Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st December, 1977, to elect members of the Committee, to elect and appoint Auditors and to deal with any other business which the Meeting is competent to transact.

Dated 4th April 1978

Fanum House
Basingstoke
Hants RG21 2EA

By Order of the Committee of the Association
W. Lynch
Secretary

The Report and Accounts are available to members on application to the Secretary.

THE SHAFTESBURY HOMES AND "ARETHUSA"

CHARITY COMMISSION

General Vacancies

APPEALS DIRECTOR

The Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and Sinfonietta require an Appeals Director in connection with their "Housing the Orchestras" Appeal. Location, Poole Dorset. Salary in excess of £4,000. The person appointed will be fully conversant with all aspects of fund raising. Preferably with Consultancy or National Charity experience. Some local knowledge would be an advantage. Please apply in writing to:

The General Administrator,
Western Orchestral Society Ltd.,
2 Seldown Lane,
Poole,
Dorset
BH15 1UF.

ONLY THE BEST

Reader's Digest magazine is looking for a deputy chief sub-editor who will work to the highest professional standards. Probably mid-twenties, with at least three years' editorial experience in magazine publishing. Wide general knowledge essential. Salary £4,000 plus, handsome profit-sharing scheme, an office in Mayfair—and you can choose the jokes.

Handwritten applications with typed c.v., please, to:

Lois Murphy,
Deputy Editor,
Reader's Digest,
25 Berkeley Sq.,
London W1X 6AB.

Summer holiday arrangements will be honoured.

ASSISTANT (WELFARE)

required by Association of Recognised English Language Schools. Interesting work in nationally important field involving administration and liaison. Good education, mature outlook essential. Experience in educational administration an advantage. Able to type. £3,500 p.a. plus LV's and 4 weeks' holiday. Apply:

A.R.E.L.S.,
125 High Holborn, WC1V 6QA

SAFETY ENGINEER

required by leading Italian/Swiss Joint Venture for Hydroelectric Project Site in Nigeria just starting and scheduled to be completed 1982. Accommodation available on Site.

Any interested person should send their application and curriculum to:

J. V. Torno For Shiroro,
Via Albricci 7, Milan-Italy.
Phone 802741.

WEST COAST SCOTLAND

Privately owned and run Country House Hotel requires staff for season from now until November. Exacting high standard of work and ability to get on with other staff essential. Apply in writing with photograph and names of 2 referees to

Buchanan Smith,
Eriska, Ledaig by Oban,
Argyll.

COURIER/SITE REPRESENTATIVE SPAIN OR FRANCE

People required to work on our camp sites in Calella, Spain, or Port Grimaud, France. Mid-May until October. Must be fluent in Spanish or French, used to working hard on own initiative. Av. wage £45 p.w. Telephone:
Club Cantabrica Holidays Ltd. for details
St. Albans (STD 0727) 33141

COURIERS REQUIRED. Speak French or Italian? Available immediately? Canvas holidays required enthusiastic young linguists to be their representatives on top-class European camp sites. Vacancies almost immediately until mid-July. Please send full curriculum vitae to: Canvas Holidays, Bull Plain, Hertford, Herts. Tel.: 0992 59933.

MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL

SELECTED RISK INVESTMENTS S.A.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

Training Co-ordinator

for

TIMES NEWSPAPERS LTD.

Times Newspapers Limited is a company which incorporates The Times, The Sunday Times and The Times Supplements. We need an experienced Training Officer to co-ordinate the introduction of a full range of company training activities, covering the implementation of a computerized photo composition process for newspaper production.

The successful candidate will be an experienced training officer, preferably with a basic knowledge of, or interest in, electronics. The possession of a degree or similar qualification and IPM membership is desirable but not vital.

The preferred age range is 25 years and upwards.

The salary will be commensurate with experience. Other benefits include medical schemes, contributory pension and generous holidays.

Please send full personal and career details to:

Desmond Hayes,
Employment Manager
TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED,
200 Gray's Inn Road,
London, WC1.
Telephone 01-837 1234, Ext. 398

EDITORIAL STAFF

(2 posts)

Required by the

CENTRAL OFFICE OF INFORMATION

London, S.E.1. for their Publications and Design Services Division, to be members of an editorial team producing publications for use overseas, including magazines in Russian, Polish and Romanian. The work covers a wide range of editorial functions including research, commissioning and writing. Candidates should have editorial experience (preferably with commercially-published periodicals) and a broad knowledge of international and of British economic, social and cultural affairs. Knowledge of one of the languages mentioned above is desirable but not essential. First-hand experience of life in the U.S.S.R. or Eastern Europe would be of advantage. The successful men or women will be graded Information Officers. Salary on the scale £4,365 to £5,163 per annum. In addition there are supplements amounting to £522 per annum (salaries are currently under review); non-contributory pension scheme, promotion prospects. Please send postcard for application form to Central Office of Information, Atlantic House, Room 55, Floor I, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1N 2PD quoting reference number COI/PDS 25/AA. Closing date for completed forms is 19 May, 1978.

HOSPITAL PROJECT

STATE OF KUWAIT

We are an internationally known French engineering group specialising in world wide turnkey projects. We are seeking the following personnel for two hospitals currently under construction in the State of Kuwait:

2 ASSISTANT RESIDENT MECHANICAL ENGINEERS
1 ASSISTANT RESIDENT CIVIL ENGINEER
1 QUANTITY SURVEYOR
2 ASSISTANT QUANTITY SURVEYORS

3/4 years commercial experience is desirable. Generous remuneration package with tax free benefits.

Write or telephone with details to:
CIET/INTER G
14 Grosvenor Place, London SW1X 7HH.
01-235 0089

CHAIRMAN'S ASSISTANT

Experienced Chartered Secretary (or similar), aged 30-55, but must have all round business knowledge of medium/small private companies, company/mercantile/employment law, general company secretarial duties, company/private taxation, property management, insurance, licensing.

We are a very busy and expanding group of employment services in Central London.

Salary about £6,000 + benefits.

Apply in writing to J. A. Perriam,
ACIS, Chairman,
ALANGATE GROUP OF SPECIALIST AGENCIES,
6 Great Queen Street, London WC2B 5DG

SHIPPING MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL WEST INDIES

Shipping Company seeks Personnel for its West Indies' Offices to manage/supervise liner, bulk and reefer services.

These are new appointments and are an excellent opportunity for qualified persons.

Salaries in accordance with position with good fringe benefits.

Only applicants with minimum 5 years' experience in one of the above mentioned services will be considered.

Please write to Box 1314 K, The Times giving comprehensive details of past experience and personal data which will be held strictly confidential.

LANDER BURFIELD

Chartered Surveyors

Require a

PARTNERSHIP SECRETARY

To be responsible to the Partners for the general administration of the firm in its branches in London and the Croydon area. Applicants should have wide commercial administrative experience and should be able to interpret accountancy figures, cash flow situations, etc.

Applications, marked Personal, to:

Trevor Burfield, Harpur House,
36-38 Lambs Conduit St., London WC1N 3LL.

STATISTICIAN

The National Ports Council requires a statistician in their Economics and Statistics Division. Areas of work will include the review of coverage and classification of port statistics, the analysis of data relevant to port transport industry problems, the monitoring of international trade movements, the preparation of detailed quarterly and annual figures for the Council's statistical publications, and the interpretation of European port statistics.

The successful candidate must be capable of developing in detail a broad problem specification, of developing methods of solution, and of carrying the analysis through to a conclusion. The person appointed will need to demonstrate professional competence in mathematical statistical techniques, as well as the ability to handle, interpret and summarise clearly large amounts of statistical information.

Applications from well qualified graduates with some practical experience since qualification are invited for the post. Salary is negotiable within the range £3,313-£6,022. There will be prospects for promotion. Applications, with full a curriculum vitae should be sent to:—

Assistant Secretary (Establishments)
NATIONAL PORTS COUNCIL,
Commonwealth House,
1/19 New Oxford Street,
London WC1A 1DZ.

STUDENT/SCHOOL LEAVER (awaiting university entrance and who lives in London) required as Telephonist/Receptionist in congenial solicitors office, twixt Thames and Fleet St.—Please 'phone Miss Blundell, 01-583 6701.

NOTICE

All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

CONTRACTS AND TENDERS

DEMOCRATIC AND POPULAR REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA

Ministry for Energy and the Petrochemical Industry

ENTREPRISE SONATRACH—
SONATRACH CORPORATION

National and international invitation to tender

Tenders are invited for the installation of the heating, air conditioning and hot water supply system for the residential quarters at:

—HASSI R'MEL—RHOURDE NOUSS—
IN AMENAS & TIN FOUYE (T.F.T.)—

Tenders documents are available to interested companies against payment of DA500 from the following address as from 25.4.78: Entreprise SONATRACH, Direction des Travaux Pétroliers, Service Génie Civil & Topo, Les Vergers, BIRKADEM, ALGIERS, ALGERIA.

Tenders together with the necessary documentation should be sent in two envelopes, the sealed outer one to be marked " Appel d'Offres National & International pour la réalisation des installations de climatisation des Bases Résidentielles des Secteurs—A ne pas ouvrir ", to Monsieur le Directeur des Travaux, Pétroliers—2 rue du Capitaine Azzoug—Hussein Dey—ALGIERS, ALGERIA, by 15.6.1976 at the latest.

Any tenders arriving after this date will not be taken into consideration.

Bidders will remain bound by their offers for a period of 120 days.

CONTRACTS AND TENDERS

FOREIGN PURCHASING COMMITTEE FOR STEEL SCRAP

18 EMAD EL DIN STREET, CAIRO

INTERNATIONAL TENDER 2/78

To the Registered Trading Agents from Public and Special Sector in favour of national metal industries the Committee issues an international tender for the supply of 15,000 metric tons loose heavy melting steel scrap number one according to ISIS specifications 1975 with free foreign currency equal to about $2,000,000 (two million dollars).

Specifications and general conditions are available at National Metal Industries, 18 Emad El-Din Street, Cairo, by a written application against payment of twenty Egyptian pounds for each copy. The offers should be submitted through one of the Registered Trading Agents from Public or Private Sector.

Opening date shall be on Saturday at eleven o'clock morning, 13th May, 1978 at the above address.

MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL

BOROUGH OF BLACKBURN BILLS £800,000 Bis. issued 19.4.78 Maturing 19.7.78 at 6.63 ...

LEGAL NOTICES

No 001015 of 1978

In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division Companies Court. In the Matter of GASTON BUILDERS Limited and in the Matter of The Companies Act, 1948 ...

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

IN the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division Companies Court. In the Matters of: No. 001018 of 1978 P. RHODES DEVELOPMENTS Limited, No. 001022 of 1978, TRIEGANA MANAGEMENT CO. Limited, and in the Matter of the Companies Act, 1948 ...

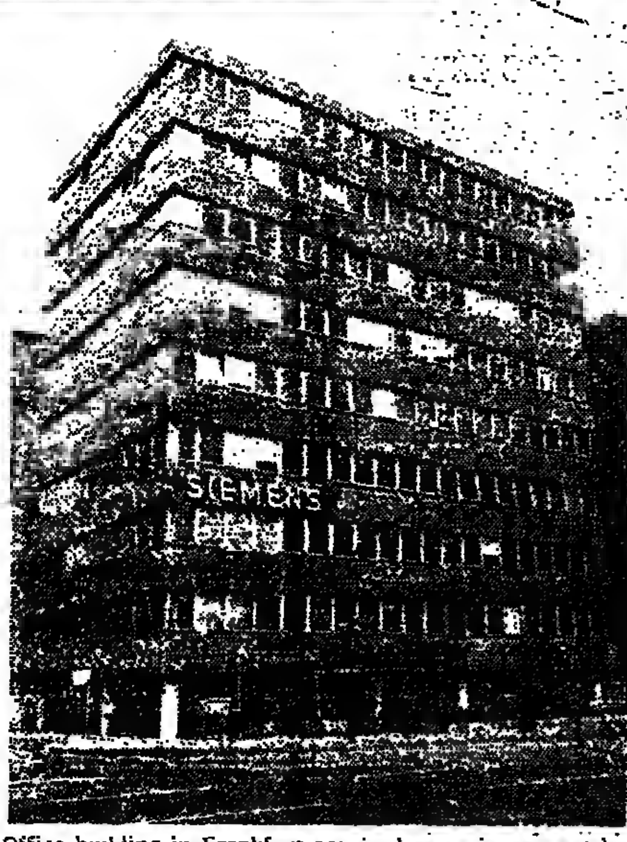
H.M. LAND REGISTRY LOST CERTIFICATE

LEGAL NOTICES

In the Matter of the SEX DISCRIMINATION ACT 1975. In the Matter of DR. JAMES JOHNSON'S EXHIBITION FOUNDATION. ...

Commercial Property

Central area plans set pace



Office building in Frankfurt acquired as an investment by Singer and Friedlander European Property Trust for about £1.6m.

Central area schemes continue to set much of the pace in the development field. Last week the second phase of the Wood Green Shopping City, which forms a large part of the Haringey central area redevelopment, was topped out in a ceremony which also marked the inauguration of a residential scheme which is to be built above the shops.

The shopping scheme is being carried out by Electricity Supply Nominees, the trustees of the pension fund of the nationalised electricity industry, in association with the London Borough of Haringey. The shopping centre will be open for trading in March, 1980.

The second phase is being built on two levels on the west side of the High Road, close to the junction with Mayes Road.

Designed by Richard Sheppard Robson and Partners, it will provide a department store of 75,000 sq ft for the House of Fraser, two large units, one of 63,000 sq ft and one of 30,000 sq ft, which is reserved for a major fashion multiple, and a further 79 standard shops, giving a total gross retail area of about 500,000 sq ft.

In addition, there will be a shopping hall and parking for some 850 vehicles.

The housing scheme above the shops will give 201 flats, to house about 540 people. It is being undertaken by the Metropolitan Housing Trust at a cost of about £3.5m, which is part of the £16.6m building contract being carried out by John Laing Construction. Richard Ellis are advisers to ESN and project managers and letting agents for the commercial element of the scheme.

Two recent office lettings in the Horsham £7m central area redevelopment complete the disposal of all space in the scheme.

Foxborough International, represented by Stiles Horton Ledger, are to lease 5,800 sq ft of offices at a rent close to the £3.75 a sq ft which was being asked, and the remaining 4,700 sq ft is under offer to a firm of solicitors. The lettings were through Jones Lang Wootton, who earlier had disposed of the entire retail space.

The scheme has been carried out by the Norwich Union Insurance Co, in conjunction with the Horsham District Council. It includes two large stores let to Boots and Sainsburys and 38 shops which are occupied by a variety of multiple retailers.

Also now fully let is Pilgrim House, at the corner of Peascod Street and William Street, Windsor.

The scheme, carried out by MGM Assurance, comprises shopping on basement and ground floors, offices totalling 3,862 sq ft on two upper floors, with two flats above. The whole office content together with the flats has been let to Bristol Myers, Ltd, the American pharmaceutical company, at over £27,000 a year.

Both shops are also let, one at £8,750 a year and the other at £9,500 a year. Letting was through Richard Ellis, who were project managers for MGM Assurance, in conjunction with B. S. Campsie and Co.

In Bromley, the Central Hall, in London Road, has been sold by the Methodist Church to Mountjoy Investments at a price reported to be in the region of £140,000.

Mountjoy have now started redevelopment of the site, which covers about one third of an acre, as a new selfcontained office block of about 14,000 sq ft on four floors, with car parking behind.

The scheme also includes the construction beside the office block of 15 flats for old people to be carried out by the Coastal Counties Housing Association.

The Methodist Church were advised in the transaction by David Baxter, of Penge, and Warmington and Co, of London. Baxter Payne and Lepper, of Bromley, introduced the site to Mountjoy and will be letting agents. Completion is expected in September, 1979.

The Singer and Friedlander European Property Trust, a consortium of United Kingdom pension funds investing in commercial property on the Continent, have now added a modern freehold office block in the centre of Frankfurt to their portfolio.

The building, which is in Gutleutstrasse, was constructed in 1969 and comprises 2,500 sq metres of offices on eight floors. It is let to Siemens, who also occupy several other buildings in the immediate vicinity.

The present rent is about DM16 a sq metre a month. Purchase price was in the region of £1.6m, the net beginning yield to the trust being about 6.25 per cent.

The trust was represented by Allsop and Co and the investment was introduced through the Frankfurt office of Jones Lang Wootton. The trust has to date invested about £6m in Holland, Belgium and Germany.

In this country, the Dickinson Robinson Group pension fund have acquired further investments totalling over £5.7m.

Principal new investment is the freehold of a 7½ acre warehouse estate in Argyle Way, Stevenage, from Audley Properties. The fund are providing interim finance for the development of two office buildings giving on to Stevenage station, providing a total of 25,250 sq ft of offices, and also for 100,000 sq ft of warehousing in 11 units. The first phase is under construction and one of the office buildings and a warehouse have been let to Control Dataset, Ltd. The total development value will be over £4m. The remaining £1.7m is accounted for by the acquision of a shop investment in Reading, an industrial development in Alperton, Middlesex, and an office development in Swindon. Richard Ellis advise the fund.

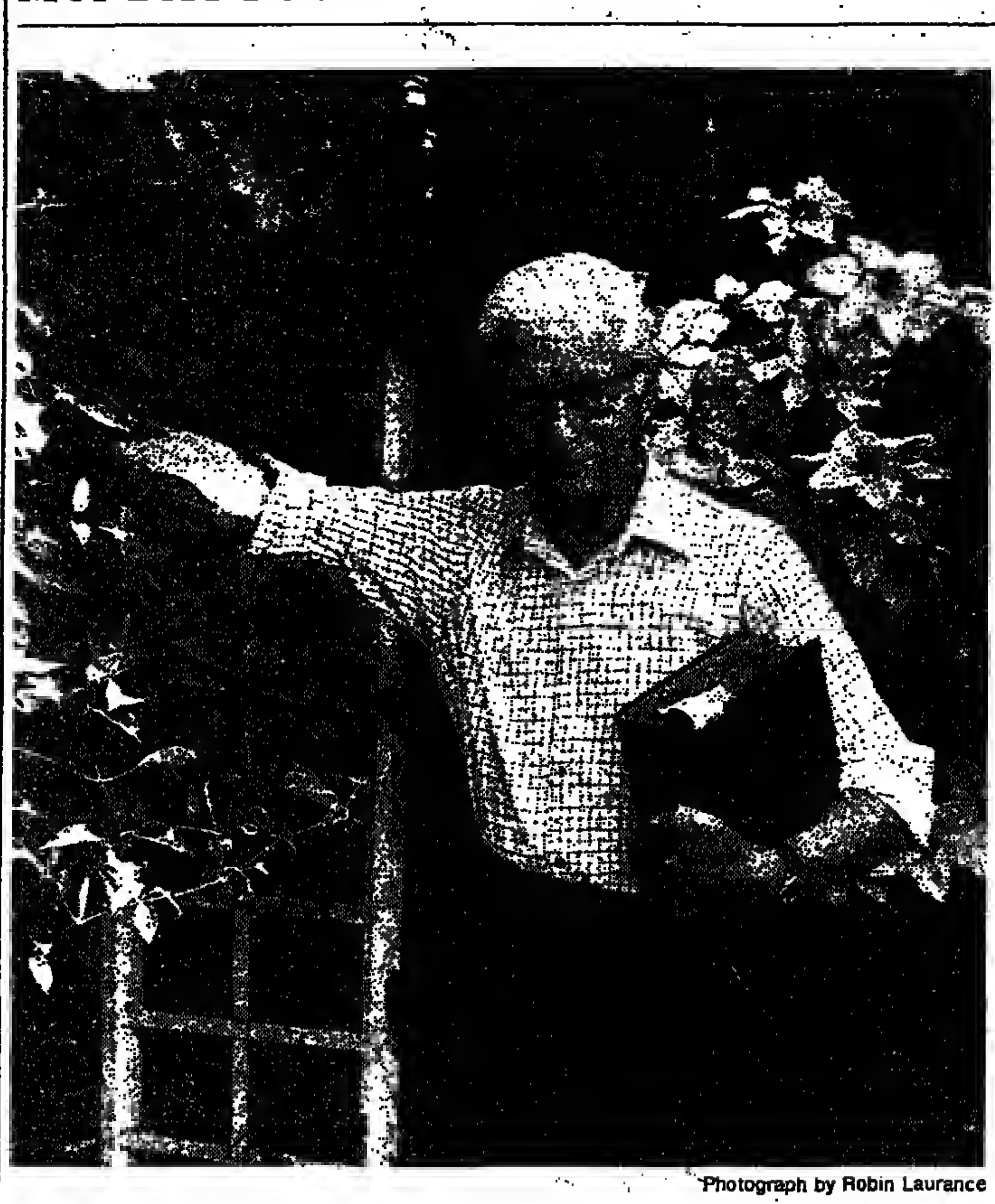
Construction has started on the Thornton Road industrial estate just north of Croydon on the London to Brighton road. The site is that of the old ICL complex and the scheme is being carried out by a subsidiary of London Mercantile Holdings.

The scheme will provide a total of 161,400 sq ft of warehousing in units of between 9,000 sq ft and 47,000 sq ft. Architects are John Gill Associates. Lambert Smith and Partners acted on behalf of the developers in a forward sale to the Fleming Property Unit Trust, who were represented by Allsop and Co.

The value of the completed and let investment will be about £4.5m. Lambert Smith and Partners and Allsop and Co are joint letting agents aand are quoting a rent of £2.25 a sq ft. Same major lettings are already in hand.

Gerald Ely

MONDAY BOOK



Photograph by Robin Laurance

The perfect Indian civil servant

A Shaft of Sunlight
Memories of a Varied Life
By Philip Mason
(André Deutsch, £6.50)

One day in 1941 Philip Mason, Indian Civil Service, was terribly injured in a jungle shooting accident. He was temporarily blinded in both eyes, but his first and instant reaction was to make sure that the other members of the party had unloaded their guns, to prevent further mishaps.

Then he had a more revealing thought. "I remember a distinct consciousness", he writes, "that this was putting on rather an impressive act". The first response was in the grand tradition of his service, at once commanding and humane, but the second displayed him a man of his generation. You do not build empires by introspective self-mockery, but you do most distinctly give them away.

George Santayana called the British imperialists of his day the world's "sweet, just, boyish masters", and I think it undeniable that the last generation of the empire-builders was the *nicest*—the most sensitive, the most considerate, the kindest. Philip Mason, who served in India for 20 years, was patently among the most sensitive of them all, and this volume of autobiography (only the first, I hope) is really the story not just of himself, but of his kind. Future generations will admire it greatly, and will recognize in its every paragraph why the British Empire came to an end.

Mr Mason joined the ICS foreseeing that the British would be leaving India before the end of his own career, but he was convinced of the merits of the Indian Empire, and was eventually to become indeed the most persuasive of its propagandists. He was thus, one might suppose, harrassed by conflicting instincts from the start, especially as his temperament was intensely self-conscious and embarrassable (he was too embarrassed, at his preparatory school, even to open his mother's letters in front of the other boys).

Not, it seems, that he allowed any such conflicts to affect him, if conflicts there were. He was the perfect Indian civil servant, respectful to his seniors, courteous to his charges, endlessly diligent, and seldom allowing his immense literary talents, or his mystic bent, to interfere with his work. He was no Orwell or Maurice Collis, kicking against the system that employed him. He was the best kind of imperial paternalist, dedicated to the progress, by his own lights, of his native subjects.

He guesses, of course, what harsh critics may think about his imperial attitudes, and rightly conjures us to judge them by the standards of his time. Still, the book does seem oddly aloof to Indian art and culture—when as late as 1947 Mr Mason made arrangements for the grandsons of the Nizam of Hyderabad to have some music lessons, it never occurred to him that it might be Indian music they ought to learn. His India is essentially a rural, simple India, and the best job in the ICS, he thought, was to run the remote mountain district of Garhwal, where the modern world seldom intruded at all.

The weakness of those boyish masters, it seems to me, was the complexity of their convictions. A single song, as Arthur O'Shaughnessy perceived, could impose a rhythm upon human progress, but it must be a straight, simple song. The British ideal of decency was governed by a code so subtle and particular that one could hardly call it an ideology, and it seems indeed, when employed to rule an empire, to have carried the seeds of its own destruction already germinated and fertilized.

But of course its highest application was not to the domination of other peoples. Mr Mason says that his education at Sedbergh and Balliol was specifically intended to qualify him for authority, but his values are much higher than that. He is a man of atonement, always groping for better meanings, and I rather think that in him, and in this fascinating memoir, we may glimpse a deeper sense to the whole imperial phenomenon: behind its bluff, its greed and its grandeur, it was one of history's mysterious reconciliations.

Jan Morris

THE ARTS

The games they play

A Play for Love
Yorkshire

Michael Ratcliffe

The marriage of Alice and Gerald was the envy of their friends. Alice was beautiful, languorous and amusing, and lived in Venice. Gerald, an aphoristic Eurocrat, notorious for scourging Frogs, spent much of his time each year travelling the world from Brussels but always returning to Venice at intervals to marvel at his marriage anew. Their daughter they called "the ragazza": Gerald adored her and she him. But "the ragazza" was changing: she was into puberty and R. D. Laing. Instead of attending a birthday dinner held in her honour at what looked like a suite of the Gritti Palace Hotel, she was down in the bar, apparently reading Patrick White and circling an epigraph by Paul Eluard: "There is another world but it is in this one." She intends, she tells Gerald, to put a rocket up his perfect marriage.

David Mercer's early television play, *For Tea on Sunday*, having worn its age so well in the recent production by Rosemary Hill, Francesca Annis having been so moving in Stephen Poliakoff's *Stronger than the Sun*, and Peter Barkworth being good in everything he does, I had the highest hopes of *The Ragazza*, the new 60-minute play with which Mercer ended Yorkshire's sextet "for love". But it did not quite come off.

Mother and daughter were both played by Miss Annis—with gymslip, granny specs and black wig, there was no intention of hiding that, but it was only in the final shots of the play that we discovered for certain that both Alice and Gerald had been playing games from the start and that there was no third person in their marriage or their lives. The "ragazza" had been invented to add spice not only to their lovemaking but to a relationship which disintegrated completely in its first row. We left Gerald heading for Caracas and Alice for divorce.

It was disappointing to find Mercer pinning his play on a trick so familiar from *The Lover* and *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* particularly since, as an explanation for human behaviour, "role-playing" merely makes the spectator want to go back to the beginning and feel that the drama proper is, or should be, about to start. I believed in Mr Barkworth's maddening indestructibility but not for a minute in his cruelty or heartlessness; I allowed all Miss Annis's attractions but not her despair. There were quite a few witty lines and good jokes, but simply not enough substance to spin out for a whole hour the little games of a rather potty pair.

English Chamber Choir/Protheroe
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Stanley Sadie

Saturday's interesting concert at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, under Guy Protheroe, suffered from various kinds of inconsistency. The most basic ones concern the coupling of old and new. To say that authenticity, if it is to be pursued at all, must be pursued wholeheartedly is to cry for the moon; but to use a sextet of "original" strings with organ and theorbo in tandem with a modern mixed choir of 30 singers is to set up contradictions that cannot but be damaging to the music.

In Handel's *Dixit dominus*, in particular, the actual musical text unmistakably predicates a fair-sized orchestra. To use solo strings not only makes a big work sound puny; it also changes the perspective of the sound. Further, the quality of the authentic instruments has a pungency that consorts unhappily with the comparatively bland sound of an amateur choir, typiclly English in its soft-toned female voices. At times, admittedly, this particular objection seemed academic, for the string players could be seen, busily sawing away, but not heard.

The instrumentalists were the Ars Nova ensemble, who by no means acquitted themselves badly in a demanding task. I was rather less happy about the singers, the English Chamber Choir (unconnected, I imagine, with the English Chamber Orchestra), whose pleasant enthusiasm and unspoilt voices could not always quite compensate for technical shortcomings. They sang difficult music, including besides Handel—where they lacked the precision of attacks to bring out the youthful vitality of his remarkably original *Dixit dominus*—several Monteverdi items. There was a gentle, relaxed account of the "Ave maris stella" from the *Vespers*, and in the six-part "Magnificat" from the same work weakly sustained lines and a mistuned echo diminished the pleasure. Unsure articulation, static rhythms and unfocused tone also marred his third *Confitebor* setting and the seven-part *Gloria*.

In all this music the solo roles are florid and not all the singers could readily cope with them. The soprano Jessica Cash made sterling efforts. But one could enjoy with reservation the contributions of the countertenor, Christopher Royall, possessor of a high and ringing voice, and of Richard Morton, a firm, assured tenor, who also sang, in a nicely cultivated style, a solo motet by F. M. Marini.

Summertide/Two Pigeons
Sadler's Wells

John Percival

Admirers of Margaret Barbieri had a busy weekend because within 24½ hours she was dancing at successive performances all three ballerina roles in the Royal Ballet's double bill at the Wells. She began the series on Fridy as the gypsy girl in *The Two Pigeons*, a role to which she has always given a seductive charm.

That charm is still there, but beneath it she has added an extra quality, an amused contempt for her innocent rival so complete as to be cruel. The interpretation is presented with a deceptively comic surface and much bravura glitter; her solos in the second act included some *grands jetés* of almost Russian magnitude. But the new reading deepens the ballet's drama.

To match it, unfortunately, you probably need Barbieri's own account of the pure young girl, impossible casting except perhaps on film. Marion Tait gave an attractive enough performance of that role at this performance, but on a less impassioned level. Paradoxically, I suspect that she and Carl Myers, who played the young man, would both make more impression if they did not try so hard to act the roles, but just let the choreography speak for itself: something Ashton's ballets in general and this one in particular do eloquently.

Peter Wright's *Summertide* does not aim to offer anything more than good dancing, but that is not something to be despised. I had not previously seen Vyvyan Lorrayne in it. She adopts a cooler, more reserved attack than Barbieri, on whom the role was made; less lyrical but smoothly elegant. Tait is admirable in her solo role, and David Ashmole demonstrates his claim to be regarded as the Royal Ballet's best *danseur noble*. Kim Reeder, too, is excellent in his solos, with a more solid strength enlivening his former supple speed.

André Messager may not be so distinguished a composer as Mendelssohn, but the latter's second piano concerto, used in *Summertide*, is less good ballet music than the former's specially written score for *Pigeons*: colourful, exhilarating, even touching, and lovingly played by the company's own orchestra with Barry Wordsworth conducting.

Wren Orchestra
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Max Harrison

Ravel's *Le Tombeau de Couperin* is a work full of civilized irony, yet that was scarcely evident from the pedestrian reading with which the Wren Orchestra began its concert on Friday. The Prelude flowed evenly, as it should, yet had scarcely any character, and the Forlane was just as unengaging, the conductor, Howard Snell, never giving a positive shape to anything. Likewise, the Minuet was too passive, the orchestra making a good and quite well integrated sound but nothing being done with it. The closing Rigaudon was of necessity more lively, yet no more stylish.

The orchestral part of Rodrigo's unavoidable Concierto d'Aranjuez sounded sharper, more precise, but this is music that demands far less. The work is, indeed, a pleasant enough piece of light music that has been made tedious by undue repetition, the third movement, in particular, now sounding quite empty. Even the opening Allegro, however, is concerned only with the thrumming and strumming of the most commonplace sorts of Spanish music. The slow movement is more genuinely tuneful, has some lyrical feeling, and the playing of the soloist, Carlos Bonell, was expressive within the limits such music allows. He displayed, in fact, a clean, clear technique and a fine tone.

After the interval Debussy's Prelude *L'Après-midi d'un Faune* made a better impression than the various Ravel movements, being more of a piece. Yet the music's haze of sensuous warmth was scarcely evoked, and, as in the Ravel, the solo wind playing was not distinguished.

It was frankly a surprise, at this stage, to find that Mendelssohn's Italian Symphony fared much better. The outer movements, especially, had a drive and cogency that had been so notably absent hitherto, and Mr Snell himself was considerably more animated on the rostrum. The brass was at some points a little out of balance with the rest of the ensemble in the first movement, but the Andante and Con moto were urbane, yet expressively pointed, even if the latter movement slightly lost its sense of direction towards the end. Certainly, on this showing, Mendelssohn suits the Wren Orchestra and Mr Snell better than French or Spanish music.

ECO/Adey
Festival Hall

Barry Millington

Three young musicians were responsible for a highly professional evening of music making at the Festival Hall on Thursday; the oldest, an ancient 35, was making his debut there. The fare was varied, a symphony and a piano concerto by Mozart, neither among the most familiar of its genre, the *Metamorphosen* for 23 solo strings by Richard Strauss and a work that nicely bridged the gap in style, Tchaikovsky's *Variations on a Rococo Theme*.

The conductor of all four works, Christopher Adey, showed a sure grasp of their varying demands. His interpretation of the *Metamorphosen* was well considered. Not allowing himself to be put under pressure in the slow-moving opening section, he continued to face the music with care so that the homogeneity of string sound never seriously threatened to become monotonous. More might have been made of two of the work's main structural signposts (both typical Straussian six-fours): the understanding was there but the communication of it slightly misjudged.

The Mozart symphony, No 14 in A major, K114, was done stylishly and if there were a few straggly ends (and beginnings) from the English Chamber Orchestra, they were much less noticable in the concerto, K456 in B flat, which followed. That may have been due to the charm with which Mr Adey and the solo pianist Daniel Adni gave this least aggressive of Mozart's concertos, its quasi-military figures softened into smiles.

Colin Carr's account of the Tchaikovsky *Variations* was a fiery one; a thinnish tone in places was no doubt partly the result of the large hall's open spaces, and it did not detract from Mr Carr's concentrated, eloquent performance.

Society of Arts music scholarships

The Royal Society of Arts travel scholarships to young professional string-players and singers are as follows:

String players: £2,500 to Colin Twigg, 17 (violin) for study with Felix Andrievsky in Tel Aviv (special "Jubilee Award"); £2,000 to Lorraine McAslan, 18 (violin) to continue a second year of study at the Juilliard School, New York; £1,650 to Nancy Borrett, 19 (violin) for study with Igor Ozim in Cologne; £1,650 to Rona Murray, 18 (violin) for study at the Mozarteum, Salzburg; £1,000 to Sophy Langdon, 19 (violin) for study at the Juilliard School; £1,000 to Elizabeth Treanor, 21 (violin) for study at the Juilliard School; £500 to David Lockington, 21 (cello) for study at Yale University.

Singers: £2,000 to Harry Chambers, 27 (lyric tenor) for study in Milan; £1,500 to Christine Taylor, 23 (soprano) for study with Hans Hotter; £1,500 to Dinah Harris, 30 (soprano) for study with Rita Streich in Dusseldorf or Vienna; £1,200 to Graeme Matheson-Bruce, 32 (tenor) for study with Hans Hotter; £1,200 to Carol Leatherby, 30 (mezzo-contralto) for study with Eugenie Ludwig in Paris and Vienna; £1,000 to Helen Walker, 25 (soprano) for study with Hans Hotter; £600 to Richard Morton, 25 (tenor) for an Opera Workshop course with Tito Gobbi in Florence; £500 to Christopher Blades, 26 (baritone) for study with Luigi Ricci in Rome, and £500 to Rosalind Horsington, 25 (soprano) for study with Tito Gobbi.

King's Lynn Festival

Expenditure on artists and events for the 1978 King's Lynn Festival will be nearly 50 per cent greater than for last year's festival. Industrial and commercial sponsorship has particularly helped to develop the programme while keeping ticket prices down.

At the festival, from July 21 to July 29, there will be concerts by the London Symphony and Hallé orchestras, Contrapuncti, the Academy of Ancient Music and the King's Singers.

BBC orchestra's European tour

On May 10 the BBC Symphony Orchestra begins a tour of Eastern and Western Europe, visiting six countries and three capital cities. Under Pierre Boulez and Charles Mackerras, its chief guest conductors, the orchestra will give 11 concerts in 13 days. They will play in Czechoslovakia, Austria (Vienna), Hungary (Budapest), Yugoslavia, Switzerland and France (Paris). Six of the concerts will be broadcast in Britain on Radio 3.

May at Stratford

Three new Shakespeare productions open at Stratford-on-Avon early next month, beginning with *The Tempest* on May 2 at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre.

Michael Bogdanov, in his first production for the Royal Shakespeare Company, will direct *The Taming of the Shrew*, which has its first night on May 4.

At The Other Place theatre on May 11 there will be the premiere of John Barton's production of *The Merchant of Venice*.

Australian Opera's fire damage

The Australian Opera has suffered damage to its scenery and costumes in excess of \$A½m through a fire in Sydney. Over half of the company's stock of 60 operas is affected, including the whole of the Concert Hall *Aida* and the scenery for the new *Merry Widow*. Three productions due to be seen in the Sydney winter season, *Madame Butterfly*, the award-winning *Marriage of Figaro* and *La Bohème* are partially destroyed and will need to be remade in various respects immediately. *La Forza del Destino* and *The Mikado*, both due for revival later in the year, may need to be replaced or cancelled.

The long-term effects are all serious and substantial. Replanning will be necessary for 1979 and later years.

Some of the notices on this page are reprinted from Saturday's later editions.

It is the division of leadership that is spoiling and splitting the black African cause

Rhodesia: this elusive thing called 'majority opinion'

By a Correspondent

One of Mr Ian Smith's most insistent claims is that the three black nationalist leaders Bishop Muzorewa, the Rev Sithole and Chief Jeremiah Chirau, represent between them the "overwhelming majority" of black Rhodesians, and that by implication there is massive black support for the Salisbury agreement of March 3.

This assumption, even if it is true, remains unproveable in the present situation of divided opinion and widespread intimidation among Africans. Who are the "majority" and what is this elusive and insubstantial thing called "majority opinion"?

Is it the voice of frightened and ignorant villagers in the tribal trust lands, Mr Smith's "tribesmen" ("Ours are the best blacks in Africa"), who have been indoctrinated for months by the guerrillas in their midst, but who want most of all to stay alive, and will vote according to the make of gun that is pointed at them?

Is it the voice of African townships, of the commuters in suits and overalls who live in those acres of drab-coloured boxes, of the salaried or wage-earning man, the clerk, the public works department employee, the midwife, policeman and primary school teacher—who because they want to preserve their jobs and their property tend to look favourably at Mr Smith's agreement, yet are scared of being denounced by "the boys" as sell-outs?

Is it the voice of youth, of the younger black generation which despises its parents' willingness to say "baas" to the white man and to go on counting its blessings, of the thousands of school leavers in coloured bonnets and flared trousers whom unemployment and empty pockets in a siege economy are turning into unruly corner boys and who provide the guerrillas with a prime source of support and recruitment?

Is it the voice of the educated (or semi-educated) student class, stirred by Mozambique radio, by black protest literature, and by revolutionary idealism to look for a violent solution ("We want power not concessions")?

In tribal terms, is it the voice of the majority Shona or of the reputedly more warlike Ndebele?

It is probable, at this moment, that a majority of black Rhodesians would still prefer a compromise solution even at the cost of having to surrender vital elements of temporary control over their affairs and that they could be persuaded to back Bishop Muzorewa and his two black colleagues, the Rev Dr Ndabaningi Sithole and Chief Chirau.

Yet chronic mistrust of Mr Smith continues to reduce the number of African moderates. Even among the older black generation and the employed in townships, moderate opinion is far weaker than a year ago.

Mr Smith has exploited the divisions within the African camp to prolong his "twelve glorious years" and to discredit the black nationalist leaders both among their own people and internationally.

These divisions are such that Africans are currently less interested in obtaining concessions from the white man (e.g. repeal of racial laws)—they assume they have won this battle—than in sorting out their own leadership in the run-up to political power.

"You must remember," an African university lecturer told me, "that we are not politically educated; that is why we (and the guerrillas) are fighting for individual leaders to whom we give our loyalty, rather than for a general ideology or cause. If Muzorewa were to withdraw from his impossible alliance with Smith, Sithole, and Chirau, and go over to Mugabe—and this is more than possible—we would have a united Shona front.

"Nkomo? He has sabotaged the guerrilla effort. His 'boys' do little more than cause a nuisance to the Shona in Bulawayo beer halls. He may well land up on Smith's side".

It is the division of leadership that is spoiling and splitting the black African cause, and driving many Africans to a point where they see, behind any temporarily negotiated settlement, the ultimate spectre of civil war. It is the fear of civil war, not the unreal trivia of the present agreement or the prospect of concessions, that is becoming uppermost in the African mind".

I believe the acceptance and success of a future settlement between whites and blacks will depend less on any physical apparatus of enforcement than on mutual trust (which is not strong) and on black good will towards the whites (of which there is still a reservoir, despite the white men's contemptuous neglect to cultivate it).

> There are feelings of hatred and revenge growing that the average white man seems incapable of detecting . . .

Both mutual trust and black good will have been and are being gravely eroded by Smith's intransigence, by the litter of unkept promises that blows behind him, and by his party's continued refusal to dismantle, in effect and practice, the racial laws—a refusal that illuminates the real poisonous root of Rhodesia's problem: namely the inability, or unwillingness, of most whites to change their attitudes towards the black man. Then there are the harassment and killing by security forces of black people, many of them non-combatants "caught in cross-fire". The tally of dead "terrs" is totted up on the evening scoreboard; the corpses photographed lying in police yards like dead rats.

The results are growing hatred and revenge feelings that the average white man, seeing only the apparent docility of his labourers and workmen or of the Africans who share the city pavements with him, and knowing scarcely anything of what is passing through their minds, seems incapable of detecting, so that each killing of a white person or family startles and shocks him. In truth, the whole of Rhodesia has in greater or less degree been infiltrated by guerrillas or their agents, relatives and sympathizers. The white man is very much in enemy country now. Perhaps he does not know, or care to know, how black audiences applaud each television announcement of a guerrilla success, and how eagerly many Africans scan the daily paper for notices of "troopies" killed in the war.

The brutal logic of the African, which rarely reaches the white man's ear, is revealing.

"Why do you shoot white women?" I asked an educated youth from Inyanga, whose hero is Mr Mugabe.

"Because they carry guns too and they can shoot you dead."

"Why do you kill white children?"

"You must know that small snakes can bite the same as big snakes."

The African can also be elusive. "Why do you kill missionaries?"

"We don't. The Selous Scouts killed them."

It follows that a great many Africans who are attached by occupation or profession to the white establishment are in a dilemma. They can't help wanting "the boys" to win successes in the guerrilla war. But they do not want them to inherit the power; for they relish neither revolution nor Marxism.

Mugabe's sharp spear is currently useful, but he is not their man in the long run. Meanwhile they keep their eyes on the wind, whose direction, if they wish to prosper, will determine their declaration of allegiance and its timing. A mistake could jeopardize their lives.

Smith's chances of successful independent action are impaired by other factors. If his government were to dismantle tomorrow the whole apparatus of racial discrimination, it would of course gain moral standing and put itself on the right side. But even if the Land Tenure Act were to be entirely abolished, how many Africans would have the money to buy expensive white farm land or a 10,000-dollar house in a desegregated white neighbourhood? Government statistics showed that in June, 1976, only 3,000 Africans were earning 300 dollars a month or more. A run-down economy cannot lift wages and salaries to a point where many black Rhodesians will be able to afford the good things of the white man's life.

The promise of foreign aid is one of the trumps in the Anglo-American proposals. Without it, and the lifting of sanctions, no settlement can survive. White Rhodesians especially showed great interest in the international Trust Fund originally mooted as part of the package deal put to Smith by Dr Kissinger in September, 1976. Many whites could be bought out, and would leave Rhodesia tomorrow, if such a fund ensured their pension rights and a fair return on sale of property.

From afar one may admire the courage of white Rhodesians in standing up to international pressures and a guerrilla war; and Solzhenitsyn's warning against Soviet designs on the outposts of the Western world can be used to justify the preservation of Smith's Rhodesia as a vital interest. But what white Rhodesians have been really fighting for is the preservation of their own minority interests and privileges. Their cause has been a bad one; and no amount of Soviet involvement on the side of their enemies can make it right.

Julian Amery, sitting in a garden chair in Salisbury, recently told us to "hold on for a wind of change in the West".

But it is too late now for white Rhodesians to regain their 80-year-old paradise. It may be difficult for them to obtain even a quota of reserved seats in ... They are an anachronism. They have shown themselves incapable of adjusting to a non-racial society or of changing their attitudes to black people.

Lieutenant-General Peter Walls has said (November 1977), "Those of us who are left are bloody tough". But not all white Rhodesians are armed settlers or volunteer police guards. Many are opportunists or recent immigrants from suburbia, quite ready to leave a sinking ship if they can do so in tolerably good order. Liberal whites, on the other hand, will want to stay (they may amount to 10 per cent of the present white population); and there are the very old who are determined to leave their bones in Enkeldoorn or in the red soil of Umtali.

From the perspective of Rhodesia, one is tempted to see her as a small piece in a big game; the scene of preliminary moves towards the reduction of white South Africa in its present form, and perhaps of guerrilla incursions into adjacent African states.

This is what Mr Smith means when he talks of Rhodesia as fighting the West's war against Marxism. But was it not Gladstone who said of the Balkan liberation wars, that the strongest shield against the oppressor are the breasts of free men?

Lee Harvey Oswald: sorting the truth from the legend

Legend is a word with a special meaning for intelligence services on both sides of the curtain. Mr James Jesus Angleton, the CIA's former chief of counter-intelligence, once said that a legend was an operational plan for a cover or the cover itself. For Mr Yuri Ivanovich Nosenko, a former KGB officer, legend meant a false biography.

Both are quoted in Mr Epstein's book*, and with good reason. Nosenko, who had been a double agent, defected to the United States soon after the assassination of President John Kennedy. He said that he had been in charge of the KGB file on Lee Harvey Oswald when the assassin was in the Soviet Union.

Nosenko insisted that Oswald was unknown to the KGB before he arrived in Moscow in 1959 and renounced his American citizenship. Neither he nor his Russian wife, Marina, was recruited by the Soviet intelligence agency because Oswald was regarded as unstable and of little importance.

Angleton was sceptical, and his investigators concluded that Nosenko was ordered by the KGB to defect, most probably to provide a legend, or cover, for Oswald. He did not believe that Oswald was hired by the KGB to shoot Kennedy; only that Nosenko was ordered to protect an earlier connexion between Oswald and the KGB.

Angleton's conclusion was nevertheless disturbing. The Russian authorities had provided the Warren Commission with information of Oswald's activities in the Soviet Union, and the implication was that this had also been falsified to support Nosenko's legend.

The dilemma of the commission, which was under pressure from President Johnson to conclude its inquiries as quickly as possible, was reflected in a secret staff report. "If Oswald was an agent of the Soviet Union and they together made up a legend, we have no way of independently checking the truth of the legend. The question therefore arises, how are we to assess whether or not what we know of Oswald's real life is not a legend designed by the KGB and consistently lived out by Oswald thereafter?"

Epstein has had a good try. According to his version, Oswald, who was a convinced Marxist, probably spied for the Russians when he was in Japan with the United States Marine Corps.

The evidence is inconclusive, and it seems unlikely that an enlisted man would have access to one of the Cold War's best-kept secrets. Nevertheless, for a man who was supposed to have been of little importance, Oswald was treated extremely well when he went to the Soviet Union. It did look as if he was being rewarded for services rendered.

Oswald clearly enjoyed a degree of affluence and popularity denied to him in the United States, but despite the flat with its fine view of the river, the smart clothes and social whirl, his diary expressed a growing disenchantment with Soviet life. It seemed that he was American enough to resent the lack of freedom, except that many entries indicated that the diary was fabricated well after the events recorded.

The diary could have been part of a legend to cover his return to the United States as a KGB agent. Certainly he had no difficulty in leaving the Soviet Union with his wife and child, but back in Texas he led a shiftless existence and was unable to support his family. They were frequently separated and life could have been miserable for Marina but for the kindness of the local Russian-American community who took care of their ethnic own.

A leading member of the community was a George de Mohrenschildt, a dashing and mysterious man who had been investigated by the CIA, the FBI, naval intelligence and other agencies. He was alleged to have worked for the Nazi, British and French intelligence at various times, and Epstein infers that he also worked for the KGB and was Oswald's handler, or immediate superior.

Little evidence is produced except that after Oswald's attempted assassination of General Edwin Walker, de Mohrenschildt, who was supposed not to have known about the attempt, asked him how he had failed to kill the right-wing general. The two did not meet again, presumably because the alleged handler suspected that Oswald was dangerously out of control.

Certainly he behaved very oddly. He worked for the Fair Play for Cuba committee in New Orleans and also sought out Cuban refugee groups and offered to assassinate Castro. He forced Marina to write to the Soviet embassy in Washington requesting permission to return home, and went to Mexico City to apply for a separate visa to return to the Soviet Union by way of Cuba.

Oswald might have been arranging his retreat although the Soviet embassy in Mexico appeared not to be interested. Certainly they did not issue a visa. He returned to Dallas and got a job at the Texas Book Depository.

He took the job because he needed the money. He could not have known that more than a month later Kennedy would drive by within shooting distance. Whatever his connexions with the KGB, there is no evidence to suggest that his move to the depository was part of an assassination plot.

Indeed, all the evidence in this book and elsewhere supports the psychological profile of Oswald drawn by an analyst who met him in Dallas. He was seen to be a totally alienated individual, obsessed with political ideology and bent on self-destruction. According to Epstein, he reminded the analyst of a Dostoevkian character impelled by his own reasoning towards a "logical suicide".

I am not certain what that means but, to quote a Cuban who witnessed his offer to assassinate Castro, Oswald was clearly "loco". There can be little doubt that he lived in a secret world, but much of it probably of his own making.

The secrecy persisted long after his own violent end mainly because the FBI and CIA, despite Angleton's suspicions, had their own reasons for accepting the Nosenko legend. The FBI's record as far as Oswald was concerned was inglorious.

No wonder J. Edgar Hoover did not want a complete investigation of Nosenko. The CIA also chose to accept the legend when it was discovered that Mr Valery Kostikov, the Russian embassy official in Mexico who dealt with Oswald, had had contacts with Rolando Cubella. This former Cuban minister had plotted with the CIA's special affairs section to assassinate Castro, and had been assured that the plot had the full support of Mr Robert Kennedy.

Mr Richard Helms, the director of the CIA, saw the dangers, silenced those of his men who wanted to complete the investigation, and ordered a whitewash.

Eventually the agency bought Nosenko a house in North Carolina and gave him an allowance of $30,000 a year. He married, and a CIA man was his best man. He was also appointed as a consultant to the agency on Soviet affairs.

Louis Heren

** Legend: the secret world of Lee Harvey Oswald, by Edward Jay Epstein. Hutchinson, £5.50.*

Eric Moonman

How much is your MP worth?

"Most MPs couldn't run a whelk stall!" said one irate cockney to me the other day, "but then, you're different—you work bloody hard." Leaving aside the fact that hardly anyone in his right mind cherishes an ambition to run a whelk stall, the fact is that whether I am talking to a group of constituents or a rotary club, the audience invariably seems to have a very poor image of MPs. And there is small comfort when people are attacking this badly serviced and underpaid group, in being reassured about one's own contribution—any Jew or black will know the feelings provoked by, "*You're* allright, it's the others".

So what is your MP worth? Well, that depends whether both you and he know what the job is supposed to be about. A couple of years ago I prepared for these columns a consumers' guide to MPs, and the three things you most wanted from your MP were: the tenacity to follow an issue through without getting fobbed off by bureaucratic mumbo-jumbo: the *nous* to find out where to go for the answers, even when the subject is not his speciality: and a lively, communicative mind.

But can any MP, even one with all these desirable characteristics, deliver the goods?

An MP's first responsibility is to his constituents, and not just to those who voted for him at a selection conference. An MP's post-bag provides a cross-section of all the problems which beset modern society and he is expected to solve them all.

And it is at an MP's weekend surgery that you will find all the *people* who do not fit neatly into the social welfare system, whose problems involve several different layers of bureaucracy, as well as those who need help urgently between 5 pm on Friday and 10 am on Monday, when all social agencies and local council offices are closed and their phones are dead.

I have now ceased to be amazed at how little even apparently well-educated people understand about the power structure in our society, and my colleagues who represent the middle classes of deepest Cheshire or the literate intellectuals of NW1 say the same. The message in so many letters is "*You* tell them and they must take notice", often followed by "or I'll write to the Queen". Hardly anyone seems to realize that neither Her Majesty, Willy Hamilton, nor I, can override legal decisions or change the rules governing council house allocation or the levels of supplementary benefit. I can see that all the facts are known to the relevant authority, or speed up a bureaucratic process; I can get an injustice investigated by the Ombudsman; but in most cases what an MP exercises is not power, but influence.

Next there is the matter of delivering the goods to one's party. I cannot speak for the Conservatives, but the impression one gets is that Tory associations in the constituencies are unlikely to become restive unless their member's behaviour becomes an open and well-publicized scandal. Evictions of sitting members for departures from prescribed policy, though not unknown, are rare.

Delivery to the Labour Party is, however, a more complex business, because of the number of levels of responsibility involved. It is not always possible to satisfy, at one and the same time, the constituency party, the parliamentary Labour Party, Conference (which often gets its priorities right but is equally often very muddled), and, through the Whips system, the Government.

The MP's salary of £6,270 is derisory, both in real terms and in comparison with other jobs. For example, recent advertisements in *The Times* offered £7,000 to a supervisory head, £5,500 to a secretary ("capable" of course), £9,000 *plus* car and house to a personnel officer, £8,000 upwards to an English language trainer, and £15,000 each to three public relations executives; £8,000 plus major fringe benefits for a "results-orientated" role in operational research"; £18,000 for a businessman to travel to the Middle East (one way?), £8,376 plus for the Northumbria Tourist Board officer whilst a printer in Fleet Street can pick up more than £10,000.

An MP's worth can be assessed in relation to monies actually saved by his personal effort and performance. On these references my 1978 "best buys" must include: Tam Dalyell, whose savings to the nation, taking in as they do the plan to use Aldabra as an RAF staging post and the Anglo-French swing-wing project, must run into millions.

There are a number of outstanding MPs who serve on the various investigating committees in the Commons. The relentless scrutiny of men like Russell Kerr (l), Michael English (l) and Edward du Cann (c) may not always bring the prompt reaction their select committees are seeking, but it is an embarrassment to the Government which will make ministers demand more efficient service and more effective costing from the civil servants who land them in such predicaments. These MPs are auditing and appraising expenditure running into hundreds of millions of pounds; and they are paid beans in comparison.

But not all MPs' contributions can be costed in pounds and pence; and if I mention a few by name it is only to specify the range of action. Leo Abse (l) has contributed much to individual happiness by pursuing legislation on sensitive social issues such as homosexuality and divorce reform.

Linda Chalker (C) has established a reputation for concern with mental health, both in the House and with MIND. Eric Ogden (L), is not interested in dramatic interruptions in the Chamber, but each night in his Commons office he diligently prepares a support for each constituent's case, revealing not only his compassion as an MP but that he is one who easily meets the three criteria mentioned earlier. Rhodes Boyson (C), a controversial figure, in educational issues, is impressive in the preparation of the briefs he composes on his constituents' behalf before he tackles the civil servant. Stephen Ross (Lib) has proved that a large electorate (90,000) does not prevent an MP following through even the most complex cases. His battle on behalf of 16-year-old Broadmoor patient Dina Irons has cast doubts on the value of the much more expensive services of doctors, barristers, solicitors and psychiatrists and its implications have alarmed the all party Mental Health Committee which he has called to his aid. If Dina eventually regains her freedom it will be a triumph for an MP's diligence.

The "toughies" have their place, too, as radio listeners are beginning to notice. Few ministers can cope with either Dennis Skinner (L) or Norman Tebbit (C). The time and effort given by the MP's wife for no remuneration at all must also be noted. The practical support given by Barbadee Meyer (wife of Sir Anthony Meyer) and Doris Heffer (an all-round worker for Eric Heffer) is far more than the wives of professional men are expected to give. Then, too many MPs wives put in an enormous amount of work in the constituency, especially when the seat is several hundred miles from London. Again, the Dalyell's are a worthy example; Kathleen Dalyell does virtually a full-time case worker's job as her Tam is in London or Brussels Monday to Friday. There is no question of letting the problem or letter wait till the weekend when he is home; she just gets on with it.

These are all marvellous people, whose work is scarcely known, let alone appreciated. The occasional breakdowns in MPs' marriages are still the exceptions and not the rule despite the recent well publicized if dull revelations of Brian Walden's former wife and of Ms Maureen Colquhoun.

The author is Labour MP for Basildon.

LEAPMAN IN AMERICA

Companies opening new shops and showrooms often get celebrities along to cut the metaphorical ribbon. Usually they are instantly recognizable stars of stage and screen but Singer, the conglomerate that makes sewing machines and much else, decided to strike a more cerebral note when they opened their refurbished sewing centre in New York's Rockefeller Centre the other day.

Sewing is, after all, a contemplative activity, and who better to provoke contemplation than the redoubtable Herman ("thinking the unthinkable") Kahn, the plump guru of futurologists. Singer invited a few dozen friends and reporters, set them down in an auditorium and led in the thinker.

Kahn explained that he was going to give us a condensed, 40-minute version of a lecture that normally lasted three hours. "The first thing I want to do", he declared, "is to talk about the future of mankind"—making us wonder what he would do for an encore. Only in the last 200 years, he maintained, have people made the assumption that the future would and should be better than the past.

Much of what he said was familiar stuff to experienced Kahn-watchers. In a reference early in the talk to the economic plight of Britain—a fashionable topic among American analysts of all disciplines—he observed that our growth rate of about two and a half per cent had remained roughly the same since the industrial revolution.

"There is nothing wrong with England except that other countries grow faster," he said, giving a swift giggle to leave open the possibility that he might be half joking.

I have heard Kahn give his future-of-the-world lecture three times now (once in the back of a limousine speeding to Heathrow airport) and his style of delivery is always a little breathless. Cutting it to 40 minutes, though, made it hard to follow, especially some of the extended metaphors.

Illustrating his point that upper-middle class élites do not enjoy economic progress as much as they used to, he employed an opaque image of a crowd being forced to stand on tiptoe, and those who got there first not enjoying it as much as they did before the others arrived.

The going was easier when he referred to the chart he had brought with him, dividing the history of the world in the twentieth century into *La Belle Epoque* (1886 to 1913); *La Mauvaise Epoque* (1914 to 1947); *La Deuxieme Belle Epoque* (1948 to 1973); and *L'Epoque De Malaise?* (1974 until around 2000). He made the telling point that in the case of *belle epoques*, nobody realized how *belle* they were until they were over.

Malaise turns out to be fairly safe to forecast for the next 20 years because, by Kahn's definition, it is neither a terribly happy nor a terribly disastrous condition. The period, he believes, will be characterized by the further emergence of the "middle income nations", by a greater potential for disorder, by vulnerable world economic systems but also by a reduction in poverty.

It is only when he is persuaded to give one or two detailed examples that some begin to doubt whether his approach is as scholarly, as uncluttered by prejudice, as it seems. One definition of malaise which he offered was of the "sloppy" climate in which suburban children were nowadays reared.

Parents and teachers are, he believes, too forgiving. If a teenager gets pregnant, she can simply be given an abortion. If a boy is rude to his teacher he is defended on the grounds that it is healthy to challenge authority.

"There is nothing you can do in suburbia to get in trouble", he said. "And really, the kids hate being forgiven."

In passing, he offered a couple more observations of interest. To the question: "Can you change human nature?" he replied yes, and that capitalism was proof of that. Most traditional cultures did not defend selfishness or individuality yet much of the world was now run on a system that placed a premium on just those qualities.

Finally, he delivered a rather rude joke about Brazilians, before making up for it by forecasting that Brazil would become one of the great powers of the world. The audience showed dutiful interest before heading for the cocktails, but I left with the impression that they might have preferred Bob Hope, who probably comes at about the same price.

I know that it is a crowded field, but it seems to me that more implausible nonsense is written in the press about espionage than about any other field of human endeavour. Take the case of Arkady Shevchenko, the senior Soviet official at the United Nations, who announced the other day that he would not be returning to Russia.

As soon as anything like that happens, a reporter's first instinct is to speculate on whether Mr Shevchenko has been involved in spying for or against his government or, more excitingly, both for and against, as a double agent. The reporter telephones officials until he finds one who will admit such a possibility, and the story is on its way.

It is, however, impossible to obtain information which can be relied upon. In the case of Mr Shevchenko it was suggested that he had been in touch with American security people for some years, and that he was offering to tell them, for money, which of their supposed agents was in fact feeding them false information at the behest of the KGB.

Already we are into a convoluted area, but consider how the newspapers who printed the story came by it. They quote "intelligence sources" who would have their own reasons for putting the tale about. If you believe that the Russians are feeding you with phoney information in this way, what better than to announce to them through the press that you are about to rumble them? And if the Russians are not doing any such thing, what have you lost?

Come to that, how will the Americans be able to trust whatever Mr Shevchenko tells them? How do they know that he will not have been put up to it all by the KGB, and that he will denounce as Kremlin plants spies who are giving perfectly reliable information, thus rendering them ineffective?

I am not suggesting that reporters simply make up their stories without talking to anyone, but it would be safe for them to do that were they so minded. No member of the security services is going to go on the record to deny any suggestion about their methods of operation.

It is a truism that newspapermen all have a secret yearning to write fiction, and I suppose they like writing stories about spies because it brings them as close as most of them will get to that aim. Yet readers deserve protection.

Could newspapers not be made to print little disclaimers at the end of each story devoted to espionage like those warnings on cigarette advertisements—that government research has indicated that the story has only a 50-50 chance of being true? Or, better still, a notice like those which used to appear in the front of novels, to the effect that any resemblance to actual people, live or dead, is a coincidence?

The perils of transatlantic communication are illustrated in my column last week, in which I noted a belief that I was no more likely to find an allotment in Manhattan than a singles bar in Cambridge. Cambridge? What I wrote was Ambridge, a village known to lovers of The Archers, which I imagine all readers of The Times to be. I should not be surprised if there were one or two singles bars in Cambridge.

opinion

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...TTER THAN LAST TIME

...cautious statements which ...so far emerged from Mr ...'s visit to Moscow make it ...that there has been no leap ...in Soviet-American rela... Some progress in moving ...a better understanding ...problems involved for ... relations" was Mr ...comment. The joint com... spoke of "useful and ... discussions" and said ...ifferences in the strategic ...imitation talks (Salt) had ...narrowed. Both sides ... anxious to convey an ...sion of workmanlike will... to make practical pro... though *Pravda* could not ... a swipe at "certain ..." in the United States ...are allegedly making new ...to poison the atmosphere. ...est though these results ...ey are very different from ...sults of Mr Vance's visit ...oscow in March last year, ...ended with a bad-tempered ...refusal to take any serious ...of the new Salt proposals ...Mr Vance brought with ...Many people thought at the ...that the reason for the ... of the visit was Soviet ...with President Carter's ...rights policy, but although ...obviously soured the atmo... it is unlikely to have been ...e. What the Russians ...could not stomach was ...dent Carter's ambitious idea ...there should be deep cuts in missile launchers. They felt, with a certain justice, that this would require them to make cuts in the heavy land-based missiles on which they are most reliant while leaving the Americans ahead in smaller and more advanced types of weaponry.

Shortly afterwards serious talks got under way—in spite of continuing acrimony over human rights—and there is now a joint draft text running to more than fifty pages and covering more than ninety per cent of the issues, according to Mr Warnke, Director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. This goes considerably farther than the agreement endorsed by President Ford and Mr Brezhnev in Vladivostok in 1974. Assuming that the outstanding issues can still be agreed, which may not be possible before the United Nations disarmament session next month, President Carter's persistence has paid off. He will not have got all he asked for last year but he will have got more than his predecessor.

There are, however, two serious issues ahead which are linked with the outstanding details of the agreement itself. One is whether the Senate will accept the new treaty. The other is whether the European allies will be happy with it. The Senate vote looks finely balanced at the moment. Many senators are fundamentally suspicious of arms control agreements which curb America's assumed ability to get ahead. Some wish to punish the Soviet Union for its adventurism in Africa. Some are merely insufficiently impressed by President Carter. To all these the Administration's message is that an agreement which puts some limits on military competition between the two super powers is in the interests of both because it will not only save money but also decrease risk. For this reason the Administration insists that it should not be regarded as a reward to the Soviet Union for good behaviour. The senators must also consider another factor, which is that if they turn down an agreement which passes reasonable scrutiny for its effect on national security they will very seriously undermine the effectiveness of the President in future international negotiations.

The problem for the European allies is somewhat different. They worry that limitations on the new Cruise missiles could leave them hostage to those Soviet missiles which can reach Europe but not the United States and are therefore not included in the Salt agreement. Looking farther ahead they see the outlines of a further Salt agreement including American systems based in and around Europe. In other words the next phase in arms control will cut across the old division between strategic and theatre nuclear weapons. To meet this change it will not be enough for Europeans merely to keep telling the United States to respect their interests. They will have to work much better together to produce detailed and well-thought common positions.

...INA'S AMBIGUOUS DEMONSTRATION

...'s relations with Japan ...always followed peculiar ... sometimes inexplicable ... In both countries the ...ance of direct confrontation ...des that intentions and ... are signalled in more ... ways. Sometimes things ...ong or the wrong faction ... the ascendancy: where ...would one hear—as fre... in postwar Tokyo—the ...Sino-Japanese war described ...an unfortunate mistake ...ing of an apology? How ...ave these traditional habits ...reflected or disturbed as ...n a confident communist ...and a supremely success...pitalist Japan? At times ...past decade it has seemed ...the signals were being ...d, though since 1972, ...Mr Tanaka the Japanese ...Minister speedily followed ...xon's example in visiting ..., closer relations with ... have been an obvious ...se interest.

...it is Chinese action that ...uzzled and affronted the ...se. A fortnight ago a coo...ile fleet of Chinese fishing ... sailed into the territorial ...of the Senkaku Islands— ...dred miles distant from ...—and when challenged ...anese patrol boats hung ...epared signs saying that ...nds were Chinese and the ... boats were fishing in ... waters. Japanese protests ...ing led to the eventual withdrawal of the boats coupled with some very contradictory explanations of the incident. The Chinese ambassador in Tokyo had no information. In Peking a suitably non-governmental but well known specialist in relations with Japan brushed aside Japanese protests with the argument that the Japanese were making a fuss only because the pro-Taiwan wing of the ruling party were jibbing at Mr Fukuda's intention to resume negotiations in Peking to sign a peace treaty. For a long time the treaty has been in abeyance because the clause on hegemony in Asia is deemed to be directed against the Russians and the Russians have themselves told the Japanese that if the Japanese accept such a clause they will regard it as an unfriendly act.

Now it seems that the Chinese have replied to the Japanese protest with the specious plea that the incident was all a mistake. Was one arm of the Chinese government acting without the knowledge of others? Chinese fishermen are not given to political demonstrations except on orders. Or was the demonstration an oblique form of pressure to speed up Japan's signature to the treaty? If so it does not seem to have been acknowledged as such in Japan; indeed, for some days it threatened to have the very reverse effect. And will China's admission of a "mistake" carry with it an apology as well? Hitherto the Chinese Foreign Ministry has not been quick to make such gestures.

Answers to these questions may remain buried in the secret Peking files. Nor is there any reason for China to allow the rival claims to the islands to stand in the way of a peace treaty since Mr Tanaka and Mr Chou En-lai agreed this point in their talks in 1972. At all events, the hurt Japanese feelings of two weeks ago have given way to a reaffirmation of their wish to reach agreement over the treaty. They have good reason to think China is serious after the trade agreement that was signed last February. This long-term trade agreement with a group of Japanese business leaders covered the supply of plant and technology until 1985 up to a value of £5,000m in exchange for Chinese crude oil and coal. The fact that the quality of Chinese oil involves building special refineries on the part of the Japanese must mean the Japanese assume that the Chinese look to an undisturbed mutual trade resting on a degree of confidence in both countries.

On their part the Chinese may have detected signs of a new consensus in Japanese business and governmental circles in favour of a treaty with China. The Japanese will still want to find some formula over hegemony, so worded that they feel absolved from any offence given to the Russians even if the Russians choose to take such offence.

...id Wood

...se study of ...own's high ...mployment

...ace have I set foot in ...land, and then by mistake. ...ok was enough to persuade ... absent myself from any ...s it may have to offer ... Federation beer and whist, ...time, proved to be a David ...otball team slaughtering one ...after another in the FA Cup ...tion. Yet today Sunderland ...column's theme. It is a town ...times, which is to say it is ...of the 1930s, or more pre...he mid-1930s. Unemployment ...twice the national average, ...to get worse. By July there ...4,000 school leavers search... jobs that do not exist. The ... council stands desperate ...he blight, neither able to ...to develop its port nor the ...would cost to close it. Who ...ow the councillors a life...

...week Len Harper, leader of ...rough council, and several ...ies spent three days in ...looking for a saviour in ...all an' Westminster. The ...Minister could not find time ...hem, but they met four sec... of state and seven or eight ...ministers. Eric Varley, Secre... State for Industry, listened ...pleas and their unemotional ...nt of facts and said "it's ... where a 1930s man might ...id it is a sin. They saw Mrs ...r and Sir Keith Joseph, as ... Labour, Conservative, and ... backbenchers who said ...to suggest that they were ...helpless as the councillors ...ves. No doubt as a last ...they saw me. Hence, this ...although we all know that ...land is not the only town in ...today that faces decay and ...ion. Sunderland must be ... as a case-book study, ...its chance in the rivalry for special treatment and political patronage with a hundred other towns.

First, some of the background. Sunderland Borough Council, having created its own "think tank", published two studies one called "Employment problems in Sunderland" and the other "Sunderland: A case of need", and based a campaign upon them. It is a town developed at the mouth of the river Wear originally based on coal mining and shipbuilding, and in the past 10 years, "with frightening rapidity", the town has gone into a steep decline. "It must be accepted now", Len Harper says, "that this is no ebb tide of some world economic sea which will turn to flood at some time in the future. The jobs that are gone are not likely to return. Palliatives are all very well, but what is now needed is a completely new structure of employment. The concept of an industrial town in the industrial north is an anachronism." In mid-March unemployment stood at 16,164, and between now and 1983 there will be an increase of 3,200 unemployed, leaving aside more substantial closures.

Sunderland, like other blighted boroughs and authorities, has nowhere else to look for help than to any government in power. Could they be given special development area status, with tax giveaways to incoming or expanding firms, and special credit facilities for exporting companies? Could there be special industrial development finance for problem towns and areas, where the councils have no revenue to develop themselves? Could the rate support grant formulae give weighting to areas of abnormally high unemployment? Could nationalized industries be induced to bring new work to blighted towns? And, in Sunderland, could government find the money to develop the port transferred to the borough in 1972 with an accompanying heavy financial burden?

Sunderland, in other words, is a special case, as all boroughs and areas like it see themselves as special cases in a day of 1,400,000 unemployed, curbs on public expenditure, industrial close-downs and redundancies, and timid investment. Governments, like political commentators and economists, usually prefer to go for the big picture, where the human race is scarcely discernible behind the statistics and percentages. A hundred towns may be dying a slow death, but governments pursue lofty, comfortably remote policies code-named M1 and M3, cut-backs in public expenditure, with occasional manipulation of taxation and currency exchange rates to inhibit private investment and to fiddle the real value of wage packets to control the rate of inflation as an election comes closer. The present Government neither allows private enterprise the means to expand and exploit, nor provides adequate public resources to cure one of the most damnable of social evils now rife in places like Sunderland. Like Mr Varley, it says "horrific", and passes on the other side.

There is, of course, a contrary argument, which I have heard from the lips of one of the most respected Labour professors at the London School of Economics. Why should it be assumed, as the present Government and the Labour Party purport to assume, that the workers should have property rights in jobs precisely at a time when all other property rights are being challenged and removable? Why does Mr Callaghan ensure that steel workers are protected in South Wales? Why did not Mr Heath let Rolls-Royce aircraft engines go bust? Why save Clydeside shipbuilders, or cosset the fire-eating trade unionists of Swan-Hunter?

Either government does too much or it does too little. Yet the dilemma remains. Can you allow a town like Sunderland, merely using it as one of many examples, to die a slow death, no matter whether we are in or outside the season of a general election? If the answer is yes, then the social consequences including the social costs (£65m a year at present rates of unemployment, Len Harper reckons) must be calculated. If not, then in a mixed economy the private sector must be given an equal chance with the public sector to find the solution that has proved beyond the capability of government.

There is the throb of rather more emotion in the foregoing than was to be heard in the rational voices of Len Harper and his colleagues when they were at Westminster and Whitehall last week. What saddened me was that politicians have no immediate practical answer to the questions they were asking. Sunderland will die inch by inch.

MP wo...

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The naming of Colonel B

From Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, MP for Ormskirk (Labour)

Sir, You say in your leader today (April 22) that the naming of Colonel B by myself and my colleagues in the House of Commons on Thursday "was a clear attempt to undermine the legitimacy of two sets of trials". It was no such thing. Rather the intention, in which we succeeded, was to draw attention to the farce of the proceedings for contempt of court of those who had already named the ubiquitous Colonel. We also wished to highlight the deplorable failure of the Government to fulfil its manifesto commitment to repeal section 2 of the Official Secrets Act.

None of us had any intention of giving secret information to our enemies and we would all condemn such intent. Nor did we provide any information that was not already freely available.

The Colonel appeared in open court. Clearly the secrecy of his identity was not considered important enough to request the court to sit in camera. And if journalists on *The Leveller* and *Peace News* were able to identify the Colonel, then any spy worth his pay could presumably do the same.

I completely reject any suggestion that our action was an abuse of parliamentary privilege. Rather it was a proper and legitimate use of it. Parliamentary privilege exists to be used. Of course it has to be used responsibly. It was. We did not defame anyone, we did not prejudice any court proceedings, we did not say that X or Y was a murderer or a rapist, and we did not tell the enemies of this country anything they did not know.

I will certainly continue to exercise the freedom that parliamentary privilege extends to me whenever I consider it necessary in the interest of my constituents or in my function as a Member of Parliament. Indeed, one could argue that it has not been used enough. Given the archaic nature of our libel laws and the excessive secrecy of government, the aggressive use of parliamentary privilege is the only means of uncovering any scandals.

I strongly reject any suggestion that a magistrates court, the DPP, the Attorney General or anyone else should dictate what parliament should debate. I would have expected democrats and guardians of press freedom, such as the editor of *The Times*, to support that viewpoint.

I believe that the journalists of *The Leveller* and *Peace News* were misguided in naming the Colonel. I also believe that it is bringing the law into contempt to threaten them with imprisonment for publishing what anyone else could have found out for themselves. That is the real farce. Members of Parliament have a duty to draw attention to the ridiculous posturings of our legal and Governmental establishment and use whatever influence they have on behalf of those who cannot fight for themselves and do not possess the weapon of parliamentary privilege.

If nothing else, perhaps this whole episode will have given force to our case for the repeal of section 2 of the Official Secrets Act and for the enactment of a Freedom of Information Act.

May I say in conclusion that in my original draft I had again named the Colonel, but I agreed to delete this at your request.

Yours sincerely,
ROBERT KILROY-SILK,
House of Commons.
April 22.

Role of voluntary organizations

From the Director of the National Council of Social Service

Sir, In his article on April 17 on "Reforming the corner shops of the social services", Mr Jef Smith criticizes and calls for the reform of voluntary organizations. He dismisses the recent report of the Wolfenden Committee on *The Future of Voluntary Organizations* for its failure to "tackle its subject with the sort of critical cutting edge usually absent from the discussion of the contribution of voluntary effort to the social services". Many are critical of aspects of the Wolfenden Report yet, as Mr Smith admits, "voluntary organizations are diverse, and no single recipe for reorganization will be appropriate to them all". What the Wolfenden Report does offer, to voluntary organizations, central and local government, is not a recipe but an opportunity to reappraise the contribution of voluntary organizations and their place some 30 years after the consolidation of the Welfare State.

I would suggest that the debate should concentrate on three points.

First, we live in a plural democracy, that is a multiple system which allows for mechanisms whereby voters can cajole, advise and warn their representatives as well as planting their cross on the ballot form every few years. Voluntary organizations are a part of this plural system. They offer the opportunity to the individual to make a personal and direct contribution. They stand for involvement and participation rather than an attitude of "leaving it all to *them*", which has sprung in part from the dominance of large-scale bureaucracies.

Secondly, the demands on the personal social services is such and will continue to be such that the statutory services need reinforcement. If that were not the case I doubt whether the Wolfenden Committee would have found that in the personal social services, taking the efforts of the voluntary and paid worker together, the contribution of manpower by the voluntary sector is the greater. We need to find new ways of harnessing these resources to better effect, especially as they reflect the commitment and good will that comes from what people *want* to do rather than simply being *paid* to do.

Thirdly, society is not static. New needs emerge; traditional needs require new approaches. Voluntary organizations have no monopoly on innovation or criticism, but their record demonstrates their invaluable contribution to the development of our social services.

There is no doubt that many voluntary organizations need reform. But rather than snipe at the symptoms, let voluntary organizations together with central and local government work together to understand our respective roles. One final point on money: the voluntary sector is not as dependent on government grant-aid as Mr Smith implies. In 1975 the total estimated income to charities in the United Kingdom was £1,717m of which £200m or 11.6 per cent came from central and local government. The most specific recommendation of the Wolfenden Committee was for partial central government grant-aid to local intermediary bodies whose functions, among others, are to improve the performance of voluntary organizations as suggested by Mr Smith.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS HINTON, Director,
National Council of Social Service,
26 Bedford Square, WC1.
April 17.

Israel and Lebanon

From Dr Abraham Marcus

Sir, One might have expected that someone like Sir Geoffrey Furlonge would be emboldened by your own views on Israel to submit a letter which surpasses them (April 18).

His sense of outrage is not entirely disinterested. He has a special involvement as an honorary officer of an organization, CAABU, that propagandizes against Israel on behalf of the Arabs and that supports the PLO. Even so, one is shocked that he can refer to the Government of Israel as murderers and be given the space to do so.

He would not call the leaders of the PLO murderers, nor the Arab governments that provide their funds. Nor do I recall letters describing the Americans in Vietnam, the French in Algeria and the Russians in the Ogaden as murderers. Perhaps for Sir Geoffrey and others, perhaps for you, Sir, Israel is a special case.

Is there not another point of view? For a long time the people of Israel have been the target of Palestinian terror. Thousands, mostly civilians, have been killed or injured by Palestinian terrorists. The world has not been too ready to condemn those actions and Mr Arafat, the organizer of terror, is honoured in the United Nations. Part of the responsibility for the aggrandisement of terror in the Middle East rests on people like Sir Geoffrey and his friends whose faint condemnations and saving clauses have contributed to the climate of acceptance that has characterized the response of much of the civilized world to the terror of Arabs against Jews. He describes that terror as futile, a small word that one might expect from someone whose pity has been engaged by his prejudice. Yes, the Israeli action in Southern Lebanon resulted in the death of civilians and the destruction of their homes. Nobody is happy about it except, perhaps, the Palestinians who want to return to the ruins and embroil the same helpless civilians once again. Their victory is in the apparent discomfiture of Israel. Your correspondent and his colleagues are distinguished allies.

You, Sir, direct a powerful and honoured newspaper. You will not influence the search for peace by pillorying Israel and her people. As many recent editorials show, you are consumed by an antipathy for Mr Begin that has gone beyond reasonableness and responsibility. Your memories of him come from a past that has many other memories that ought to temper your judgments and moderate your choice of correspondents.

Yours truly,
ABRAHAM MARCUS, Chairman,
Media Committee,
The Zionist Federation,
Rex House,
4/12 Regent Street, SW1.
April 19.

Compulsory seat belts

From the President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England

Sir, Your Health Services Correspondent on April 17 reported the condemnation by the Medical Commission on Accident Prevention of the lack of progress in getting all car occupants to wear seat belts. It is certainly true, as the Commission says, that the statistical evidence for the effectiveness of seat belts is overwhelming. To take the single example of Australia, where the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons was strongly instrumental in encouraging the necessary legislation, the reduction in road deaths and serious injuries amongst car occupants has been dramatic.

I have to report that last week's meeting of the council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England gave careful consideration to this matter. With one exception, in a meeting of 31 members, it was agreed that all possible means should be used to persuade Government to legislate for the compulsory use of seat belts by front seat occupants. The one surgeon who did not approve of legal compulsion has himself been a passionate believer in, and user of, seat belts for many years.

The council of the Royal College of Surgeons of England is representative of surgeons in every surgical specialty, and includes three elected fellows from each of the faculties of dental surgery and anaesthetists. Our fellows throughout the country in all these categories are presented daily with grisly evidence of needless human suffering imposed by continued failure to face up to this issue.

The economic and logistic consequences to the health service of coping with the victims of road accidents are enormous. It is no exaggeration to say that reduction in the road accident epidemic would free medical and nursing staff to give better and more prompt attention to many other patients. Indeed, surgical waiting lists in some areas are chiefly related to the large number of beds occupied by the victims of road accidents.

The need for more effective and economic use of existing facilities in our hospitals as well as the relative decrease in resources available give added weight to the case for early and effective legislation.

Yours faithfully,
REGINALD MURLEY,
President Royal College of Surgeons of England,
35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2.
April 19.

Andrei Tverdokhlebov

From Dr Sicco Mansholt and others

Sir, Three years ago, on April 18 1975, Dr Andrei Tverdokhlebov was arrested in Moscow. A year later he was sentenced to a period of deprivation which expired in January this year, whereupon he returned to his Moscow home. However, though he has served his sentence in full, Dr Tverdokhlebov cannot be considered a free man.

He has been unable to obtain official residence permission for Moscow, and was imprisoned from February 6-16 for being there without permission. Finding that his applications to the relevant authorities were ignored, Dr Tverdokhlebov applied to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet for permission to live in Moscow, but in March this application was finally turned down. He has been obliged to travel more than 200 km away from Moscow to look for somewhere to live. The telephones in his parents' and sister's Moscow flats were cut off by the authorities shortly before his return from exile, and therefore he is completely isolated.

Considering as we do that his sentence to prison and exile was imposed without sufficient cause (as a consequence of his demonstrably legal activities in defence of human rights) we believe that this additional penalty should be rescinded immediately.

Andrei Tverdokhlebov was born in Moscow and has lived there all his life. His two closest relatives, his mother and daughter, live there, and his father is buried there. We believe that he has a strong claim to be allowed to resume his former life in his native city, and urge the Soviet Government to permit him to do so without delay.

Yours faithfully,
S. L. MANSHOLT,
MICHAEL BOURDEAUX,
PATRICK CORMACK,
W. DREES,
GREVILLE JANNER,
ANATOLI KRASNOV-LEVITIN,
PETER REDDAWAY,
MAURICE ROLLAND,
GERARD ROSENTHAL,
D. W. SCIAMA,
Committee for the support of Andrei Tverdokhlebov.
April 12.

Warnings to kidnappers

From Mr A. B. McNulty

Sir, Mr Alexander-Sinclair (April 19) proposes that where kidnappers seek the release of prisoners, governments should shoot the prisoners "out of hand" if the kidnappers' victims are harmed, abrogating whatever laws stand in the way of such executions.

That proposal can only rest on premises such as that good ends can justify evil means, that two wrongs can make a right, and that laws can be set aside whenever they appear inconvenient.

Mr Alexander-Sinclair says that he writes as chairman of the British Human Rights Trust. Since the whole foundation of the rule of law, and of human rights law, rests on the rejection of pernicious premises such as these, it should be made plain that his proposal cannot have the support of any institution committed to the principle of the rule of law and the promotion of human rights, such as the British Institute of Human Rights—or indeed the Human Rights Trust.

Yours faithfully,
A. B. McNULTY,
Director,
British Institute of Human Rights,
Charles Clore House,
17 Russell Square, WC1.
April 19.

Arms and the Man

From the Director of the Greenwich Theatre

Sir, I feel I must write to you following Irving Wardle's review of *Arms and the Man* at the Greenwich Theatre (April 18) because I believe that Robert Chetwyn, the director of the play, has been unjustly treated.

Although Mr Wardle tells your readers correctly that Mr Chetwyn took the production over at short notice, he appears to go on to criticise him for eccentric casting and also, since the design of a production is the result of a collaboration between designer and director, for the setting of the play.

Mr Chetwyn in fact took over after rehearsals had started and successfully welded together in a very short time a cast he had not chosen. He also "inherited" setting and costumes.

As the person responsible both for the Greenwich Theatre and for the casting of this production, it is at me that Mr Wardle must aim his darts. I remain unrepentant and deeply grateful to Robert Chetwyn for helping us in an emergency and to him, the cast and the designer for a production which I will treasure among my many happy memories of the Greenwich Theatre.

Yours faithfully,
EWAN HOOPER, Director,
The Greenwich Theatre,
13 Nevada Street, SE10.
April 18.

Cromwell's methods

From Mr R. Lawson-Young

Sir, Standard of debate in the Commons: the answer is simple. Bring back Cromwell!

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT LAWSON-YOUNG
128 Piccadilly, W1.
April 19.

Pastoral nomads in Africa

From Sir Michael Blundell

Sir, In his excellent analysis of the problems in the Horn of Africa in your issue of April 14, Mr Richard Luce has omitted to mention one aspect of the Somali situation. The Ogaden Somalis established themselves on the middle reaches of the Webe Schekelle about the year AD1780 as the later part of a great and continuing migratory movement of nomadic peoples from the north. By 1860 they had crossed the Juba River and were using the wells at Afmadu (in Kenya). In my lifetime in East Africa—53 years—they have travelled from the Juba to the Tana River. If this process continues their next objective will be the River Athi near Nairobi.

Always the drive for this southward advance has been the lure of rich grazing lands and water; always desolation, desert and bad land usage have been left behind them. The question poses itself therefore whether in a free African continent the pastoral nomad can be accepted. To do so will make a nonsense eventually of the OAU desire to preserve national and territorial boundaries. It seems to me essential therefore that in viewing the problems of the Horn of Africa and in particular of Somalia itself that major attention should be given to the provision of funds for agricultural development, for the further extension of irrigation on the Juba and the Webe Schekelle and assistance with agricultural and veterinary knowledge to enable the Somalis to move from destructive nomadic pastoralism to settled agriculture and to a lesser degree industry.

It is not too much to record that arms and weapons are not what the Ogaden or Somalia require: the most urgent need is to be provided with the technical know-how and finance for the better use of the lands they have by relentless pressures over two centuries acquired by force or by diplomacy.

I remain, Sir, yours,
MICHAEL BLUNDELL,
PO Box 30181,
Nairobi,
Kenya.
April 18.

In search of a church

From the Reverend Robert Grimley

Sir, The letter from Mrs Graham Greene and others (April 14) presents a very one-sided view of the Traditionalist issue. What is at stake here is the unity of the Roman Catholic Church, and to subordinate that to private preference is a serious and destructive step. I would suggest that if the Anglican Church authorities have agreed not to give encouragement to the Traditionalist movement they have indeed acted properly.

I recently stayed in Paris in the Parish of St Séverin—St Nicolas, where the Traditionalists have seized by force one of the churches for their own use. Similarly specious claims are made there about the "reasonableness" of their having a church for the Tridentine mass. There is nothing reasonable about professedly faithful Christians setting up a counter church within the Church to which they claim to belong, nor is there anything reasonable about the action of members of a church who defy the theologically legitimate authority of their bishops. To allow this divisive movement the use of a church building is to make it seem to have a legitimacy which in fact it does not have, and a permanence which it ought not to have.

Yours truly,
ROBERT GRIMLEY, Chaplain,
King Edward's School
Birmingham 15.

In the Strangers Gallery

From M. Jean Lamade

Sir, I happened to be sitting in the Gallery of the House of Commons on the day of the debate on agricultural policy (April 7). Loath as I am to gainsay the judgment passed by your columnist on the ushers ("How to feel less of a Stranger in the House", *The Times Diary*, April 11) I cannot but state that my impressions did not exactly tally with his.

Ushering in (and out) bevies of schoolchildren, batches of garrulous American ladies or hordes of tourists—whose main purpose is not to lend avid ears to what is being said in the House—is no easy task!

The usher I met on that day looked every inch a gentleman: amiably gruff and staid to a fault; dry-humoured too, which took the edge off what might have passed for sharp remarks. On seeing I was not aimlessly leafing through the guide for visitors he obligingly went to fetch one for me, which I thought as rather considerate for a "watch-dog".

To enforce the rules of parliamentary etiquette and to enhance the well-deserved fame of your political system, you need such men as these—apparently aloof to the point of coldness and yet ever selfless in the service of others.

Yours truly,
JEAN LAMADE, Professeur,
75 bis Rue de la Chevalerie,
37100 Tours,
France.

The tachograph

From Mr S. Gorley Putt

Sir, I should find Mr Bernard Levin's praise for the lorry-drivers' tachograph more convincing if he had advocated the use of a similar machine in the offices, say, of the drivers' employers and their trade union representatives.

"Look at those idle workmen leaning on their shovels!" is an observation common enough among office workers. I have never yet seen workmen peering censoriously through the windows from which executives and typists find time to watch and time *them*. The tachograph may well seek to cut down working hours rather than increase them: but whichever way it works, that particular oddly named sauce should be eaten by geese and ganders alike.

Yours faithfully,
S. GORLEY PUTT,
Christ's College,
Cambridge.
April 18.

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
April 23: A contingent of Queen's Scouts and holders of Scout Gallantry Awards attending the National Scouts Service in St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, were inspected by The Queen in the Quadrangle of the Castle this afternoon.

The Hon Mary Morrison and Lieutenant-Commander Robert Guy, RN, were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 22: Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester, President, The Civil Service Sports Council opened the Ipswich Area Civil Service Sports Association's clubhouse at Foxhall this afternoon.

Miss Jean Maxwell-Scott was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
April 23: Princess Alexandra, Colonel-in-Chief, The King's Own Royal Border Regiment, today visited the Regiment on the occasion of St George's Day at Weeton Camp, Lancashire.

Her Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

The Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard was in attendance.

Birthdays today

Field Marshal Lord Carver, 63; Sir Gordon Cox, 72; Sir Charles Empson, 80; Mr Clement Freud, MP, 54; Dame Helen Gardiner, 77; Rear-Admiral Sir Joseph Henley, 69; Admiral Sir Rae McKaig, 56; Colonel Sir Stuart Mallinson, 90; Sir Roy Matthews, 77; Sir Martin Roseveare, 80; Sir Richard Woolley, 72.

Today's engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh attends first meeting of trustees of Prince Philip Trust Fund for Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, at Windsor Guildhall, and later attends dinner, 7.30.

The Duke of Gloucester attends luncheon given by Health and Safety Commission, Royal Garden Hotel, Kensington, 12.45.

The Duchess of Kent, as patron of Age Concern, visits society's centres in Bexley, 3.

Lecture: "Shakespeare's characterization", by Dr Stanley Wells, Shakespeare Institute, Church Street, Stratford-on-Avon, 11.

Walk: Dickens's London, meet Tower Hill station, 7.30.

Recital: Deborah Overbach, piano, St Lawrence Jewry, 1.

BBC lunchtime concert: Peter Frankl, piano, Brahms, Schubert, 1.

Memorial service: Mr Jack Hulbert, All Souls, Langham Place, noon.

Dover College

Term starts today. The guest of honour at prize giving on May 26 will be Mrs Heather Brigstocke, High Mistress of St Paul's Girls' School. The OD summer weekend is on June 10 and 11. Term ends on July 14.

Harrow School

The Summer Term begins today. Mr A. J. Petherick has joined the staff this term. J. B. Fosh (The Head Master's) continues as head of the school and T. M. H. James (The Knoll) is captain of cricket. *The Tempest* will be performed in Speech Room on May 26 and 27. Governors' Speech Day will be on June 1 and Speech Day on June 8. The half-term exeat will extend from 6.30 pm on Speech Day until 9.0 pm on Monday, June 12. Association Day will be on Saturday, July 8, and term will end on Saturday, July 15. The Eton v Harrow match will take place at Lord's on Saturday and Sunday, July 15 and 16.

Monkton Combe School

The school reassembles today for the final term of Mr R. J. Knight's headmastership. Society Day is on Saturday, May 27, when the speaker will be Sir Alan Parks. The Old Monktonian reunion is on June 24, when the centenary of the Monkton Combe Boat Club will also be celebrated (guest of honour, Dr W. G. R. M. Laurie, OM). Term ends on Friday, July 14.

Moreton Hall

Summer Term begins today with 260 girls in the school, 80 of whom are in the VIth form. Rachel Kinnaird remains head prefect. Nicola Hutchinson is captain of tennis, Sarah Phillips is captain of cricket and Nicola Robinson is captain of swimming. Parents' Weekend is July 15 and 16 and term ends on July 16.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C. D. Cree and Miss M. H. Byron
The engagement is announced between Christopher David, only son of Mr and Mrs P. B. Cree, of Soberton, Hampshire, and Margaret Helen, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs E. Byron, of Braithwell, Yorkshire.

Mr A. C. Edwards and Miss M. de Burgh
The engagement is announced between Andrew, elder son of Major J. J. Edwards and Mrs J. Terrell, and Melony, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael de Burgh.

Mr E. D. Fursdon and Miss C. M. McCreath
The engagement is announced between David, son of Major-General and Mrs Edward Fursdon, of Elm Tree Cottage, Limpsfield Chart, Surrey, and Catriona, daughter of Mr and Mrs Geoffrey McCreath, of Bondington, Castle Terrace, Berwick-upon-Tweed.

Mr A. D. Richardson and Miss C. R. Goodhart
The engagement is announced between Adrian Donald, son of the late Dr Donald Henry Richardson and of Mrs Elizabeth Richardson, of Hook Quay, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, and Catherine Rachel, daughter of Mr Philip Goodhart, MP, and Mrs Goodhart, of Whitebarn, Boars Hill, Oxford.

Marriages

Lord Elphinstone and Miss W. M. G. Chetwode
Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon was present at the marriage on Saturday at the Church of St Mary and St Martin, Blyth, Nottinghamshire, of Lord Elphinstone, son of the late Rev the Hon Andrew Elphinstone and of the Hon Mrs Elphinstone, and Miss Willa Chetwode, daughter of Major David and Lady Willa Chetwode. The Rev Alastair Gold and the Rev R. G. Hall took part in the service.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, wore a gown of cream organza and lace and a family veil held in place by a circlet of spring flowers. She carried a bouquet of similar flowers. Andrew and Sophie Leschalles, Indiajane and Alice Cox, Kate Chisenhale-Marsh, Benjamin Keswick and Viscount Lumley attended her. Mr Henry Fetherstonhaugh was best man.

A reception was held at Sandbeck Park by permission of the Earl and Countess of Scarbrough and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

The Hon James B. Bellew and Mrs G. Bellew
The marriage took place on April 22, 1978, of the Hon James Bellew, Barmeath Castle, Dunleer, Republic of Ireland, only son of Lord Bellew, and Mrs Gwendoline Bellew, daughter of the late Charles Redmond Clayton-Daubeny, of Bridgwater, Somerset, and Bihar, India.

Lieutenant A. G. Wynn, RN and Miss S. Fraser-Smith
The marriage took place on Saturday in the Chapel of the Order of the British Empire, St Paul's Cathedral, between Lieutenant Andrew Wynn, RN, younger son of Lieutenant-Commander the Hon C. H. R. Wynn, RN (retd), and Mrs Wynn, of Bunkersland, Tiverton, Devon, and Miss Susanjane Fraser-Smith, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs S. W. Fraser-Smith, of Stone Cross Cottage, Crowborough, Sussex. The Rev M. H. G. Henley, RN, and the Rev S. R. Cutt took part in the service.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, wore a gown of cream wool and carried a bouquet of roses, freesias and lilies-of-the-valley. Katie Bell, Sarah Jackson and Miss Bridget Fraser-Smith attended her. Lieutenant Allan Adair, RN, was best man.

A reception was held at the Basil Street Hotel and the honeymoon is being spent in Dartmouth.

Mr J. O. Nettleton and Miss R. U. G. Rhodes
The marriage took place quietly in London on April 21 between Mr John Nettleton and Miss Rosemary Rhodes.

Mr M. H. Streatfeild and Miss A. J. P. Walkiden
The marriage took place on April 22 at Midhurst parish church of Mr Mark Henry Streatfeild, youngest son of the late Brigadier R. J. Streatfeild and of Mrs Streatfeild, of Chiddingstone, to Miss Amanda Jane Perrie Walkiden, only daughter of Mr and Mrs S. N. Walkiden, of Midhurst.

£50,000 winner

The weekly £50,000 Premium Savings Bond prize, announced on Saturday, was won by 2FS 744134. The winner lives in Hounslow, London.

The 25 £1,000 winners are:

3 AN 586805	7 OF 585702
3 CZ 262178	8 QT 544173
2 ON 575526	11 RP 709749
2 OW 312673	5 ST 900713
6 OL 555554	6 TS 345043
2 FN 087205	9 VW 018104
3 FW 933852	15 VL 279912
6 FT 873990	13 VW 143570
KB 606654	11 ZZ 531178
9 KW 967853	14 ZK 001546
13 PL 180960	14 ZS 549186
12 PN 124612	23 ZB 523511
4 QL 235867	

Anglo-Catholic doubts on ordination of women

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspondent

Those not intimately engaged in the life of the inner circles of the Church of England usually fail to realize that the church's personality is split in at least three directions. Evangelical, Anglo-Catholic and the rest, who might be described as mildly-catholic liberals.

Church politics, a serious game played by some leading churchmen almost all the time and by most some of the time, is the process of holding those three in some sort of equilibrium in the face of pressures from inside and outside the body ecclesiastic.

The most obvious tension is between the first two, with their separate weekly church newspapers, their large national coordinating societies, their networks of patronage, their association with particular theological colleges, their own book publishing houses, and their own overseas missionary societies.

They watch each other with friendly, and sometimes unfriendly rivalry. An important move by one is often followed by a countermove by the other.

Although the organizers denied any explicit connexion, the recent Anglo-Catholic congress at Loughborough can be linked with the Evangelical congress at Nottingham last year.

For not only had the Anglo-Catholic candle been flickering low of late, but the Nottingham evidence that the Evangelical camp was in a confident and expansionist mood clearly suggested the need for a reinvigorated Anglo-Catholicism if the traditional balance of forces in the church was to be upheld.

By all accounts the Loughborough congress did go a long way towards restoring a sense of vision and purpose. Its priorities were not those that had driven the Anglo-Catholic movement into a rather arid desert of smugness and exclusiveness in recent years.

Catholicism, in the Church of England, has served as a bridge over which the best insights of the Roman church could be transmitted to the general body of Anglicanism. Since the Second Vatican Council sent Roman Catholic theology and practice exploding in all directions, however, the Anglo-Catholic movement has become rather static, perhaps bemused by the Roman Catholic rate of change and not quite able to comprehend why it was happening.

Speakers at the Loughborough congress demonstrated by their surefootedness that a new generation of Anglo-Catholics have moved with the general Catholic tide after all.

If the bridge to Roman theology is now open again, the Second Vatican Council could begin to become an important influence on the future evolution of Anglicanism, as it is influencing Lutheranism on the Continent. The full impact of the council has hardly yet been felt anywhere, even in the Roman Catholic Church itself.

For some of those present, the high spot of the Loughborough meeting was the spontaneous outbreak of strong feeling on the ordination of women.

The issue is an emotive one in Anglo-Catholicism, not merely because many Anglo-Catholics, especially the clergy, have passionate feelings about the maleness of the priesthood; they see it, also, as the greatest possible threat to the restoration of the unity of Catholicism, that is to say of Orthodoxy, the Roman Catholic church and the Anglican church united in a common communion focused on the Bishop of Rome.

In that their psychological instinct and their ecumenical ambition coincide. For a minority at Loughborough, however, what they regarded as an anti-women outburst, spoilt the whole show.

A representative of the radical Anglo-Catholic Jubilee Group commented afterwards: "What was utterly deplorable was the array of intellectual and theological sophistry, the snide and jokey innuendo, and pernicious sexism. It was the starkest, and the most disingenuous, piece of collective male chauvinism I have witnessed."

Although it has to be taken into account that the ordination of women is not such a pressing issue in the Roman Catholic Church, it is conspicuous that intense psychological reaction of such a kind is not nearly as usual in Roman Catholicism as in Anglo-Catholicism. Cardinal Hume remarked casually in a radio interview recently that in his opinion it was an open question, though the case for change had not yet been made out.

If the Anglo-Catholic movement, after Loughborough, is now in step with the progress of world Catholicism, it should at least be at the stage of addressing the ordination of women issue with an objective and unprejudiced mind. That must leave some small doubt whether Loughborough was really what it seemed at first, a creative reanimation of one of anglicanism's three pillars.

Dinners

Royal Society of St George
The Royal Society of St George, City of London branch, held their eve of St George's Day dinner at the Savoy Hotel on Saturday. Mr Charles Coward was in the chair and the other speakers were the Dean of St Paul's, Alderman Anthony Jolliffe and Commander and Alderman Sir Robin Gillett.

Institute of Management Consultants
Sir Derek Ezra was the principal guest at the annual dinner of the Institute of Management Consultants held on Friday at the Institute of Directors' Business Centre. The IMC president, Mr Bernard Brocks, presided.

Strafford Club
The Strafford Club met for dinner on Saturday at Queens' College, Cambridge. Lord William Taylour, president, was in the chair and the guest of honour was Lord Mowbray, Segrave and Stourton.

Service reception

XX The Lancashire Fusiliers
The annual Gallipoli commemoration service was held at Bury parish church yesterday. Canon J. R. Smith, honorary chaplain, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, officiated. At the march-past after the service the salute was taken by Lieutenant-General Sir James Wilson, Colonel, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers.

A reception was held later in the Castle Armoury, Bury, when the guests included the Lord Lieutenant of Greater Manchester, the High Sheriff of Greater Manchester, the Mayor of Salford, the Mayors of Bury, Rochdale, Oldham and Trafford and Mr Frank White, MP.

Service dinner

Yorkshire Volunteers
The annual dinner of the three battalions of Yorkshire Volunteers was held on Saturday at the King's Head Hotel, Richmond, North Yorkshire. Colonel R. M. Weare presided.

Lottery results

The results of the district councils' weekend lottery draw are:

Portsmouth: 1, 815693; 2, 817449; 3, 815522; 4, 801715; 5, 827293; 6, 827553; 7, 816144.

Fareham: [illegible]

Havant: [illegible]

Dover: [illegible]

Hastings: [illegible]

Hove: [illegible]

Waveney: [illegible]

Newhaven: [illegible]

Chichester: [illegible]

Harrow: [illegible]

Great Yarmouth: [illegible]

Tonbridge and Malling: [illegible]

Swale: [illegible]

Science report

Physics: In coal, small is strong

Why is it easier to break large lumps of coal than it is to smash small ones? Not just because the big ones are easier to hit with a hammer. Mathematical calculations and tests carried out at the ICI research and development unit at Runcorn have shown that as progressively smaller particles are formed they become stronger until eventually a critical size is reached. Beyond that size, smaller particles can be deformed but not broken.

It has been known since the eighteenth century that larger bodies are easier to crush to splinters than small ones, and cooks have known about that even longer. The phenomenon is important in manufacturing processes that involve the milling of products to produce fine particles. Some of the principles of physics have now been applied to the phenomenon by Dr K. Kendall, who describes his theory in this week's *Nature*.

The theory is based on the behaviour of particles that resemble a simple house—box-shaped with a pointed roof. If pressure is applied to the top of the roof, the theory shows that the force required to crack the particle depends on the size of the particle measured from front to back.

There turns out to be a critical size above which the force required to crack a particle rises rapidly and below which a particle does not break but becomes soft and can be squashed flat.

For hard substances such as coal the critical size is of the order of one millionth of a metre. That represents the smallest particles that result from grinding, and the theory explains why particles of essentially uniform size and surface area result from repeated crushing and grinding.

Dr Kendall tested the theory on the plastic polystyrene, for which the critical size is conveniently about 4mm. Particles of polystyrene with small cracks made by a knife could not be cracked further when they were smaller than the critical size.

Dr Kendall's work explains why it is possible to machine brittle materials if the cutting tool makes only cuts that are shallower than the critical size. Shavings can be removed from glass on a lathe, but attempts to cut away more than the theory suggests as a safe thickness will break the glass.

By Nature-Times News Service.

Source: *Nature*, April 20 (272, 710: 1978).

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Royal engagements

The following engagements for May have been announced by Buckingham Palace:

22: The Prince of Wales will open Dairy Museum, Stratfield Saye, Hampshire; Princess Anne will visit Chelsea Show, Royal Hospital, Chelsea.

22-26: The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will pay state visit to Federal Republic of Germany.

23: The Prince of Wales, as president, will attend annual general meeting of Royal Agricultural Society of England, at Stoneleigh, Kenilworth, Warwickshire.

24: The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, will visit home farm of Duchy of Cornwall, western district; Princess Anne will plant a National Trust silver jubilee tree on Minchinhampton Common and will open Uley children's playground; the Prince of Wales will open rheumatology unit, Royal Cornwall Hospital, city branch, Truro; he will later visit Camborne Community Centre.

25: The Prince of Wales, Great Master of the Order of the Bath, will attend service of the order at Westminster Abbey; Princess Anne will open exhibition of Post Office's special stamp issue on horses at Tate Gallery; Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips will attend the Loriners' livery banquet, Mansion House.

26: The Prince of Wales, as chairman, will preside at meeting of administrative council of the Queen's Silver Jubilee Trust at 8 Buckingham Street, Charing Cross; Princess Anne will attend charity show, Fairfield Halls, Croydon, in aid of Entertainment Artists' Benevolent Fund and the Diamond Riding Centre; the Prince of Wales, as commodore, will attend the Royal Thames Yacht Club spring ball, Knightsbridge Clubhouse.

27: The Prince of Wales, as Colonel, Welsh Guards, will attend second rehearsal of the Queen's birthday parade on Horse Guards Parade.

28: Princess Anne, will attend a St John Ambulance cadet rally at RAF Locking, Weston-super-Mare.

29: Princess Anne: will attend Save the Children day, Carisbrooke Castle, Isle of Wight.

31: The Prince of Wales will visit Tyne and Wear, and later Co Durham; the Duke of Edinburgh will visit Scottish Design Centre, Glasgow, and present 1978 Design Council awards and the Scottish Designer of the Year award at City Chambers.

31-June 1: The Prince of Wales will attend concert at Scarborough to celebrate 250th anniversary of Captain Cook's birth; he will then visit celebrations in Whitby.

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy

CAPTAIN: C. J. Caughey, Centurion for duty with Chief of Fleet Support, May 9.

COMMANDERS: J. T. Lord, Endurance in Cmd, Jun 27; R. P. Edwards, Centurion IP) for duty with DNR, Aug 15; P. M. Carver, Staff of HQ Afnorth, Jun 17; J. M. Castle, Centurion with CED Bath, Oct 17; A. W. Knight, Centurion for duty with DGW (N)DWGA, Sept 5; I. H. Hollinrake, Drake Staff of FO Plymouth, Apr 25; T. W. Lilleran, Nelson as Staff Offr Reserves Trng, Sept 29; R. J. Dobney, Norfolk, Oct 24.

SURGEON COMMANDERS: D. W. D. Evans, Rooke for RNH Gibraltar, Oct 10; N. E. Scholes, Blake, May 9.

SURGEON COMMANDER (O): M. H. G. Holmes, Bulwark, Oct 9.

The Army

ADC TO THE QUEEN: Brig N. V. B. Strickland, Apr 25.

MAJOR-GENERAL: W. R. Taylor to be Comd, British Forces Cyprus, Apr 28.

BRIGADIERS: Col K. G. Davis appid CTMO, HQ BAOR, Apr 24; J. M. C. Thornton to be Brig, Bde of Gurkhas, Apr 28.

COLONELS: Lt-Col I. S. Ferguson, SG, appid CO, Regt & Regl Dist SG, Mar 28; O. R. Green to be Comd, BRIGNEPAL, Apr 28; J. R. Skinner appid Col Ga, MOD, Apr 24; Lt-Col J. S. Symons, RE, to be CRE, 4 Armd Div, Apr 27; T. J. F. White to be Col O, HQ BAOR, Apr 27.

LIEUTENANT-COLONELS: Maj B. J. Burke R Signals, to be GSO1 (W), HQ NORTHAG (BAE), Apr 27; M. D. Parsons, QLP, appid AQMG, HQ BAOR, Apr 24; Maj A. F. P. Petrie, RAEC, to be CAES, HQ Berlin Field Force, Apr 28; R. W. Potts, RADC, to be Dent Offr, 1 Dent Gp, Apr 26; N. O. Roberts, RRW, to be GSO1, HQ LAND-SOUTHEAST, Apr 30; Maj P. Tremere-Michell, RGJ, appid CO, 3 RGJ, Apr 10; Maj F. M. Webb, RCT, appid GSO1, MOD, Apr 30.

RETIREMENT: Brig M. A. J. Tugwell, Apr 23.

Royal Air Force

GROUP CAPTAIN: D. St J. Homer, as Aide-de-Camp to the Queen, Apr 18.

WING COMMANDER (with acting rank of Group Captain): J. Broughton, to West Drayton as Station Commander, Apr 28.

WING COMMANDERS: J. A. Turner to RAF PMC as P MAN 2 (RAF), Apr 17; P. A. Beckley to HQRAFG as ORG 3, Apr 17; W. J. B. Coon to HQSTC (GW), Apr 17; G. Cleave to 30 MU Sealand as OC Radio Wing, Apr 24; J. E. Cooper to 16 MU Stafford as OC Support Wing, Apr 24; O. G. Bramall to RAF Scampton as OC Eng Wing, Apr 24; J. W. Canning to Aldergrove as ASONI, Apr 24; G. E. Bowles to HQSTC as Em 3, Apr 28; C. O. Quinton to Uxb/NOD as OCSO (Pay), Apr 28.

SQUADRON LEADERS (acting Wing Commander): N. G. Trumper to HQ STC High Wycombe as Eng Eval, Apr 24; R. Gloke to Wildenrath as OC Ops, Apr 27.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:

Mr Robin Clarke, manager at Crawley for the Commission for the New Towns, to be chief executive of the commission, in succession to Mr Malcolm McKenzie, who is retiring.

Dr Jon Whiteley, assistant curator of pictures, Christ Church, Oxford, to be assistant keeper, department of Western art, Ashmolean Museum.

25 years ago

From The Times of Thursday, April 23, 1953

The Queen has decided that the tradition of presenting the Sovereign with an embroidered glove at the Coronation should be preserved. A statement from the Earl Marshal's office yesterday said that it had been a part of the Coronation ceremonies for so long that it was felt that the glove had become one of the regalia accessories and should not be allowed to disappear from the ritual. Her Majesty has appointed Lord Woolton, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, to make the presentation. He will not be required to support the Queen's right arm as long as her Majesty shall hold the royal sceptre, a service which has previously been linked with the presentation of the glove.

Memorial service

Dr J. O. F. Davies
A memorial service for Dr John Owen Fisher Davies took place at the Church of All Saints, Highfield, Oxford, on Saturday. The Rev J. E. Cocke officiated and an address was given by Dr Peter Pritchard (representing the Royal College of General Practitioners). Among those present were:

Mrs Davies (widow), Miss Mary-Anne and Miss Miranda Davies (daughters), Professor Sir George and Lady Pickering, Professor Sir John Stallworthy, Dame Janet Vaughan, Professor Sir Richard Doll (Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals), and Lady Doll, Professor Sir George Smart (British Postgraduate Medical Federation), Dr C. Geffen and Dr Mary Tait (Department of Health and Social Security), Mr David Woodrow (Oxford Regional Health Authority), Dr A. Gatherer (Oxfordshire Area Health Authority), Mr Gordon McLachlan (Nuffield Provincial Hospitals Trust), Dr O. K. Wilcock (British Medical Association), Dr John Lister (Advisory Committee of Deans and National Association of Clinical Tutors), Sir J. E. Roniger (Oxford Medical Research Unit).

Dr William McKee (Wessex Regional Health Authority), Dr John Badenoch (Royal College of Physicians), Dr George Duncan (Oxford Regional Medical Officers), Mr K. G. Walker (Buckinghamshire Area Health Authority), Dr Wilfrid Harding (Faculty of Community Medicine), Dr George Moggy and Dr M. Essex (Council of Postgraduate Medical Education), Mr Robert Taylor (Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre), Mr Tom Potter (Oxford University Medical School), Professor and Mrs S. O. M. Court, the Principal of Lord Williams's School, Thame, and Mrs Goodall, Mr and Mrs George Watts, Mr A. L. Arschavir, Miss Eileen James, Miss Wendy Pritchard, and Mr B. Nowell-Smith.

Parliamentary diary

House of Commons

April 17: Conclusion of debate on the Budget. First Budget resolution (Amendment of the law) carried by 292 to 256 and the remaining Budget resolutions agreed to. Finance Bill brought in and read a first time. The Judicature (Northern Ireland) Bill, the Domestic Proceedings and Magistrates' Courts Bill, and House of Commons (Administration) Bill all read a second time. Adjournment debate about new City of Craigavon. House adjourned, 12.31 am (Tuesday).

April 18: Abingdon Market Place Bill. Union Theological College of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland Bill, and the Greater London Council (Money) Bill all read a second time. Motion to bring in Shops (Amendment) Bill rejected by 148 votes to 128. Further progress in committee on Wales Bill. Adjournment debate about closure of Thorn television factories in Bradford. House adjourned, 11.28 pm.

April 19: Statement by the Speaker on "Shot in the dark" questions to departmental ministers, statement on representation of Northern Ireland at Westminster. Pickoling Bill read a first time. Wales Bill further considered in committee. Protection of Children Bill passed the remaining stages. Adjournment debate about administration of the Abortion Act and the national health service. House adjourned, 12.21 am (Thursday).

April 20: Statement on settlement of HMSO printing dispute. Community Service by Offenders (Scotland) Bill read a first time. Debate on National Health Service on motion for the adjournment. Medical Bill passed the remaining stages. Adjournment debate about electric heating and damp in council houses. House adjourned, 12.3 am (Friday).

April 21: Speaker's ruling on DPP memorandum to editors on naming of "Colonel B" by MPs in the House. Employment Protection (Amendment) Bill considered on report and adjourned. Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Income) Orders relating to Austria and Switzerland made. Draft Double Taxation Relief (Taxes on Estates of Deceased persons and Inheritances and on Gifts) (Republic of Ireland) Order approved. Three Draft European Communities (Definition of Treaties) Orders approved. Commission document on animal feeding stuffs noted. Adjournment debate on problems of zip fastener industry. House adjourned 4.41 pm.

House of Lords

April 17: [illegible]

Today: ... reading. Trustee Savings Bank Bill, remaining stages. Consideration of any Lords amendments to the Shipbuilding (Redundancy Payments) Bill which may be received.

Friday at 11: Private members' Bills. Consumer Safety Bill, report stage. Housing (Shorthold Tenancies) Bill and Companies Bill, second reading.

Select Committees

Today: Expenditure: General subcommittee. Subject: Central Office of Information. Witnesses: Min of Defence, Dept of Employment, Dept of Health and Social Security, Dept of Energy. Room 8, 4.15 pm.

Expenditure: Education, Arts and Home Office subcommittee. Subject: Provision for Museums and Libraries. Witnesses: The Library Association (4.15 pm), The Museum Association (at 5 pm). Room 15.

Public accounts: Subject: Appropriation Accounts. Witness: Department of Energy. (Public may be admitted at an unspecified time after 5 pm). Room 16.

Tomorrow: Public accounts: Subject: Cash Limits. Witness: Treasury. Room 16, 4 pm.

Wednesday: expenditure: Social Services and Employment subcommittee. Subject: Employment and training to the new unemployment situation. Witnesses: National Council for Social Service. Room 6, 4 pm.

Nationalized industries: Subcommittee G. Subject: Independent Broadcasting Authority. Witnesses: Advisory Committee to the IBA; Incorporated Society of British Advertising. Room 8, 4 pm.

Public accounts. Subject: Appropriation Accounts. Witnesses: Dept of Education and Science, Scottish Education Department, University Grants Committee. Room 16, 4 pm.

European legislation etc. Subject: Oil stocks, electricity investment and world energy situation. Witness: Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy. Room 16, 4.30 pm.

Race relations and immigration. Subject: Effects of EEC membership on race relations and immigration. Witnesses: Officials of the Home Office. Room 5, 4.30 pm.

House of Lords

Today at 2.30: Further progress in committee on Scotland Bill.

Tomorrow at 2.30: Further progress in committee on Scotland Bill. Housing (Financial Provisions) (Scotland) Bill, third reading. Prayers to annul Firearms (Variation of Fees) Orders.

Wednesday at 2.15: Debate on southern Africa. Debate on future of Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital.

Thursday at 3. European Assembly Elections Bill, report. Conservation of Wild Creatures and Wild Plants ... [illegible]

Parliamentary notices

[illegible]

Funds needed to eradicate pig disease

Agriculture

By our Veterinary Correspondent

Pressure is building up for the Government to start eradicating Aujeszky's disease from Britain at a favourable time; the demand is strongly supported by the professional society of veterinarians who work closely with the pig industry. The reasoning is that, although the disease is still not very common, it might explode into a national epidemic at any moment, so now is the time to strike. In retrospect, the same argument could have been applied to swine fever: there was a period when there were hardly any outbreaks of that disease in Britain but, by the time money had been provided for eradication there were many herds to slaughter and the whole exercise, although successful, cost several million pounds more than it need have done.

Aujeszky's disease (also known as pseudorabies or mad-itch), which is fatal for ruminants, carnivores and rodents, is particularly worrying in pigs (which seem to be the natural hosts of the virus), where it causes abortions, heavy mortality in piglets and some deaths in older pigs and is associated essentially with nervous signs. The disease can establish itself in large herds and it may be several years before the virus reemerges as a clinical outbreak.

Recorded outbreaks in recent years in Britain remained in single figures until 1973, since when there have been about 15 outbreaks each year. Certain areas of the country (for instance, Suffolk and Humberside) are particularly affected, probably because these are places of high pig density. It is not thought that many outbreaks are unrecorded.

In Denmark, Belgium and France the disease has increased during the last decade but the most precipitous increases have been seen in the United States and Holland. The position in Holland is particularly disturbing because the outbreaks remained low before 1970 but by mid-1976, about 1,500 had been recorded. It is that type of explosive change that has most worried farmers and others in Britain, although there is a counter-argument that special factors operated in Holland, which are less likely to be paralleled here. The Soviet Union has a pig population similar to that in the United States (60-70 million) but no similar rise in outbreaks has been recorded there. A second worry comes from the fact that in America the disease has recently become more virulent, with higher mortality. Changes in the level and virulence of the disease must be related to total pig populations, husbandry methods and so on, and it is not altogether clear why both outbreaks and virulence have remained relatively low in Britain during a period when herd sizes and intensification have increased dramatically.

Affected herds have been slaughtered and the premises repopulated without the disease recurring, so that eradication would be theoretically possible, along the lines of the swine-fever eradication campaign in the mid-1960s. But the disease may also be eliminated by testing for reactors and culling them, a procedure that has successfully reduced outbreaks in Denmark. Until a total eradication policy is in progress, however, it cannot be known whether snags might slow the reduction of outbreaks in Britain.

Nevertheless there seems a very good chance that the disease could be cleared from Britain for something of the order of £2m (and probably less if healthy carcasses were salvaged). Holland has a similar pig population to Britain and in 1975, when Aujeszky's disease first really took hold, it cost their pig industry £3m (and much more since). Leading Dutch veterinarians confess that, were they in Britain's position now, there is no doubt what they would do. Why, then, does the Government not move?

First, we are no longer free agents, able to control our diseases to suit ourselves and forbid the entry of meat immediately from other EEC countries where Aujeszky's disease is present. We may ask for special exemptions (once we have a control programme), but we cannot win on all our other veterinary requests and consequently we have to engage in horse-trading over EEC veterinary regulations and it might be that the British government veterinarians have some other battles on their hands that they rate to be more important.

It is easier when considering priorities, to push to the background, a disease that is at a low level, particularly when our present regulations for controlling swine vesicular disease must help to keep Aujeszky's disease down as well.

Secondly, it could be said that £2m is urgently needed for something else. Yet there must be an element of gambling in not at once granting the small necessary funds for the task, especially when one considers the many millions of pounds given to less competent manufacturing industries, and also the benefit to our livestock exports that could accrue when we are able to state that we were totally free from yet another disease that is of growing importance abroad.

OBITUARY

MR BASIL DEAN

Theatrical producer and founder of ENSA

Mr Basil Dean, CBE, who was for many years an outstanding personality of the English theatre, a producing manager and director known by name to every worker in every branch of it, died on April 22. He was 89. He was also a major force behind the development of entertainment for the armed forces and founded ENSA in the Second World War.

Basil Herbert Dean was born on September 27, 1888, at Croydon and educated at Whitgift Grammar School. He trained as an analytical chemist, and was for two years on the Stock Exchange. He joined Miss Horniman's repertory company at Manchester in 1907 and remained there four years as an actor and apprentice playwright; he directed a repertory season at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, and became the first director of the Liverpool Repertory Theatre, later the Playhouse. During this period the first Liverpool productions of plays by Galsworthy, Brighouse, and Granville Barker were given; and he was technical adviser for stage-construction at the Birmingham Repertory Theatre, which opened in 1913. In that year he became assistant stage director at His Majesty's, to Herbert Tree, who, according to Dean, remarked after their first interview that this young man intended to get on, either by hook or by crook—"it is to be hoped by the former".

In October, 1914, Dean joined the Cheshire Regiment. From 1917 he was head of the Entertainments Branch of the Navy and Army Canteen Board, in which capacity he came to control 15 theatres and 10 touring companies. In 1920 as managing director of a syndicate he began operations in London. After two failures at the St Martin's, *The Skin Game*, by Galsworthy, who had once coached Dean as an actor and encouraged him as a playwright, put Reandean on the map.

Almost from the start, plans to run plays concurrently at different theatres, to present plays for limited runs at matinées, and generally to exercise his standing company were carried out. His production in 1921 of Clemence Dane's first two plays established Dean as a postwar director in the West End and as a man known to be closely interested in contemporary developments both in Europe and in the United States, where he had already directed the New York production of *The Skin Game*.

He used offers from other managements to further other causes he had at heart. When Grossmith and Malone, impressed by his handling for them of Maugham's *East of Suez*, asked him to direct a revival of a Pinero play, he made it a condition that they should produce at His Majesty's J. E. Flecker's oriental drama *Hassan*, which he had once submitted to Tree, and which was too expensive an undertaking for Reandean alone.

With plays running at two other theatres and with the scheme for an afternoon theatre (the Playbox) launched, Dean's position then seemed enviable indeed. But he found he could not afford to hold the company together, or to prolong the costly experiment of the Playbox, indefinitely; and he had, without realizing it, become something of a byword in the West End through his dictatorial methods at rehearsal.

In 1924 he took on the joint managing directorship with Alfred Butt of Drury Lane in the hope of running it on the lines of a national theatre. The opening play by Arnold Bennett and Edward Knoblock failed; *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, though successful, did his reputation as a director of poetic drama no good; and his colleagues' determination to import an American musical provoked his resignation within 12 months. In 1926, after he had directed Noel Coward's *The Vortex* in the United States, thus introducing Coward as an actor to American audiences, and Coward's *Easy Virtue* and *The Queen was in the Parlour* in London, the dissolving of his partnership with its chairman brought the Reandean management to an end.

But Dean's output continued: the dramatizing of Margaret Kennedy's *The Constant Nymph* was followed by Maugham's *The Constant Wife*, by two of Coward's plays and by the first production in England of plays by S. N. Behrman, John Van Druten.

In 1928 he branched out into films. Associated Talking Pictures, British Film Distributors and Ealing Films were all founded by him. Numerous films, *The Return of Sherlock Holmes*, *The Constant Nymph* and *Lorna Doone*, the latter two starring Dean's third wife, Victoria Hopper, were directed by him, to mention films with ma... which were vehicles for Gr... Fields. Dean, also directed first four professionally ... duced plays of the daring contemporary audiences, Do... Smith, and three plays by J. B. Priestley.

ENSA (Entertainments ... ional Service Association) ... nated in a pamphlet written ... Dean before Munich. Over ... and-a-half million performan... took place before over 300 ... lion men and women in ... forces and in industry, and ... than 80 per cent of the en... tainment industry gave ser... to it during six and a half ye... Dean's book *The Theatre ... War* contains his own acc... of what was achieved. He ... lieved that through maintain... his claim to independence ... official control, he supplie... greater bulk of entertainm... than would otherwise have b... forthcoming, but he admi... that the ensuing inter-dep... mental struggle deflected ... from the supervision of pro... tions and from organizing e... and frequent tours overseas.

After the war he directe... new play by Priestley for ... Old Vic Company in the W... End, and he made a bid du... the 1947-48 season to re-es... lish himself at the St Jam... as a producing manager. Th... he organized the first Bri... Repertory Theatre Fest... Thereafter he directed, at in... vals, revivals in various c... tries of his acting version ... *Hassan*, and a few new pla... the United States, in 196... (including a dramatized ver... of which he was co-author ... *The Diary of a Nobody*).

Dean held that it was a d... tor's duty faithfully to inter... an author's intentions. If the ... Martin's in the 1920s was c... monly regarded as De... theatre, he himself wanted i... be a writer's theatre. As a ... who delighted in technical p... lems, he could not but be a... to such opportunities when t... arose as those of talking fi... or of new scope for the the... in the welfare state. On ... matters he could argue cle... in talk, in print, and on the ... But his determination was ... able of alienating those who ... never worked with him ... mately. Those who did so ... covered that Basil Dean ... man was a being very diffe... from Basil Dean, the desp... director of unhappy rehear...

That neglect and the pro... sional inactivity of his last y... did not sour him was sure ... revelation of the true qu... of an extraordinary man. ... in this period he wrote a g... deal, including two parts o... autobiography *Seven A...* (1970) and *Mind's Eye* (19...

Dean's three marriages ... Esther Van Gruisen, to L... Mercy Greville, Frances C... tess of Warwick's daughter, ... acted under the name of Na... Parsons, and to Victoria Ho... were dissolved. He had t... sons by his first wife an... daughter by his second, non... whom entered the theat... profession. He was appoi... MBE in 1918 and advanced ... CBE in 1947.

MISS ANNA INSTONE

Miss Anna Instone, who died on April 22 at the age of 66, was for a great many years a decisive influence in the BBC's music programmes. A musician herself, she controlled all the BBC's gramophone output from 1947 for 30 years and was well-known by a wide range of composers and performers. By listeners her name was most associated with the Sunday programme *Music Magazine*, which she edited with her husband, Julian Herbage.

Anna Instone was born in Cardiff on February 17, 1912, second of the five daughters of Sir Samuel Instone. She was educated privately by English and French governesses, then at Camden House and at The Grange, Totteridge. From 1929 to 1933 she was a student at The Royal Academy of Music, playing both the piano and the viola.

She obtained a temporary post in the Sound Record section of the BBC in March, 1933, being transferred to the permanent staff at the end of that year. From the beginning she was concerned with the building of gramophone programmes. She became Assistant Gramophone Director in 1942 and Gramophone Director in 1947. This post she held until she left the BBC in 1977, its title being changed in 195... Head of Gramophone ... grammes.

The number of gramoph... broadcasts for which A... Instone was responsible ... beyond count. Their va... spanned the whole range ... music. Some of the best-kn... in addition to *Music Maga...* were *This Week's Comp...*, *The Orchestra Speaks*, ... *Lucky Dip*. A woman of s... standards in whatever kin... music she was dealing ... Anna Instone gave catholi... taste, and integrity to the B... gramophone output. She ... the Corporation's library ... gramophone records grow ... hundreds to hundreds ... thousands. Whatever the ... of her resources, her ... grammes were invariably e... tive, to the point, and ... controlled.

Last year she joined Ca... Radio and produced ... station's Sunday night clas... music programme. She had ... been working on a major s... on well-known people in ... music world, for Capital.

Miss Instone married J... Herbage, the musicologist ... writer, in 1944. With l... minds, shared interests, ... work in common, they ... congenial company in and ... of musical circles. He die... 1976.

Mr Donald Gray, the one-armed actor who played the private detective Mark Saber in the British television series of that name, died in South Africa on April 7, aged 64.

Mr Peter Bladon, who ... the Conservative agent fo... Tim Smith when he wipe... a 23,000 Labour majority i... Ashfield by-election last ... has died at the age of 51.

THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS

Government Bill this week to lift BSC borrowing limit by £1,000m

By Peter Hill
Industrial Correspondent

Legislation to lift the borrowing limit for the British Steel Corporation is planned for this week.

The Bill is scheduled to be introduced on Thursday and it is widely expected that the Government will seek to lift the corporation's borrowing ceiling from the present £4,000m to £5,000m.

This new legislation was foreshadowed in the recent Government paper on the future of the industry. It will precede a reconstruction of the corporation's finances, although this is not expected to be set in motion until later in the year.

The BSC, which was the subject of a detailed and critical examination by the Select Committee on Nationalized Industries earlier this year is expected to disclose a loss of £450m for the financial year to the end of March.

This forecast represents a substantial reduction on earlier predictions. Ministers have emphasized that it was based on unaudited results and the final loss could be lower.

Opposition MPs will press for clarification of the attitude of the Government and the BSC towards the disposal of works which are being closed as part of the overall programme for cutting costs and slimming the corporation to international standards.

There have been persistent reports that at least one European company has expressed an interest in acquiring a plant in Scotland, while union officials leading the fight to preserve steelmaking at Shelton, near Stoke-on-Trent, have said that they know of a number of British and foreign companies interested in buying the plant.

Whitehall and the corporation, however, remain sceptical in view of the extremely depressed state of the international market and the bleak prospects for the next few years.

Sir Charles Villiers, BSC chairman, said last week that it was unlikely that any steelworks due for closure by the BSC could be made profitable by a private company.

While the corporation has said that it would be ready to sell old plant for new manufacturing industry investment which complemented the corporation's own activities, it would not be prepared to sell on the basis of continued steel making operations.

However, the door appears to have been opened a little further by Mr Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, in a letter to Mr Patrick McNair Wilson, MP (Conservative, New Forest) who asked for information on the sale of complete steelworks.

Mr Varley noted that no proposals had so far been put to the Government and added that he would expect to be consulted in advance. "Each would, of course, have to be considered on its individual merits."

Anglo-Italian pact on minimum steel prices

By Malcolm Brown

British steelmakers have reached an agreement with the Italian independent steel producers—the so-called Bresciani—under which the Italians have agreed to respect the Davignon minimum price levels and exercise self-discipline in exports.

The British have also concluded an agreement with Spanish producers which puts flesh on the bones of the recent voluntary restraint pact reached between the European Economic Commission and the Spanish Government. Such pacts have been arrived at with the European Free Trade Association countries, South Africa and Japan.

British and Italian producers reached understanding between the two sides after several days of hard bargaining in Milan and Brussels. In the middle of the week steel rod makers in Italy agreed to fixed monthly quotas of laminated steel exports to France, Germany and the Benelux countries.

But the British delegation, representing the British Steel Corporation and the independent sector, made slower progress and it was not until Friday at a reconvened meeting in Brussels that a deal was finally settled.

The Milan meeting had been called because of fears that the Italians were endangering the EEC's anti-recession measures. It has been alleged that certain Italian suppliers had been breaching the commission's minimum steel prices — the Davignon minima—and undercutting tariffs by up to 20 per cent.

Questions were asked in Parliament about the Government's readiness to take unilateral measures to combat this threat. In Germany the Iron and Steel Institute lodged official complaints with the EEC that its domestic market had been disrupted, while France was said to be ready to take unilateral action unless some form of agreement was reached.

Swedish producers have agreed that they will revert to a monthly average tonnage based on exports for 1976-77.

A spokesman for the British team said that this meant that the tonnage's arriving from Sweden would be much less than in recent months.

Newsprint costs may rise by 10 pc next year

By Edward Townsend

British newspapers are certain to face demands for a significant rise in newsprint prices when negotiations with the Nordic producers begin in the autumn. The result could be an increase of at least 10 per cent on the average price of £240 a tonne.

The increase, likely to take effect on January 1, 1979, would be the first for two years. The present rates were set at the start of 1977 when a rise of £27 a tonne added an estimated £32m to United Kingdom publishing costs.

However, Scandinavian and Finnish suppliers claim that a currency clause, which the Canadians also use in their contracts with United Kingdom buyers, has worked in favour of newspapers who will, in effect, pay less for their newsprint this year than in 1977.

The Nordic producers say that in the autumn negotiations they will seek to eradicate the difference as well as cover inflation and narrow the broadening gap between United Kingdom and Continental European newsprint prices.

Some redesigning of the currency arrangement seems inevitable but United Kingdom newspapers, already badly hit this year by labour problems, are bound to resist any major rut in the differential between British and European prices on the grounds that they are the Scandinavians' biggest and best customers.

The currency clause agreed in January 1977, allowed for further increases should the pound's value fall below $1.65 and decreases should it rise above $1.75.

In the event, the strength of sterling has meant that newspapers have had reductions in price, paid in the form of monthly rebates. In January and February this year the rebate was as high as £26 a tonne. But it will fall to about £11 with the pound's drop to $1.83.

The Finnish suppliers, who provide Fleet Street with most of its newsprint, are further hit by the relationship between the pound and the Finnmark. After the recent devaluation of the mark the pound stood at 8.20 Finnmarks, but it has since fallen to 7.66 Finnmarks.

It is reckoned that in the first three months of this year, prices to the Finnish mills have dropped 5 to 6 per cent in terms of Finnmarks compared with a year earlier.

The Finns now say that a "colossal" difference exists between United Kingdom and European prices. The United Kingdom price for 48.8 gramme newsprint, before taking rebates into account, is £235 a tonne. At current exchange rates, the German price is £280 a tonne, £276 in Holland, £275 in Belgium, and £246 in France.

One of the leading suppliers said at the weekend: "It will not be possible to close the gap in one go, but one way or another we must get the United Kingdom price nearer to the others."

Newsprint consumption in the United Kingdom this year was expected to remain at about the 1.3 million tonnes level of 1977, but deliveries are already down significantly because of strikes. Most Fleet Street papers have been hit, and an estimated 40 million copies have been lost this year. The Scandinavians estimate suppliers have lost irrecoverable sales of 7,000 tonnes of newsprint.

The one encouragement for the Nordic suppliers is a sign of firming prices in North America. Canadian newsprint went up by $15 to $20 a tonne at the start of this month, and further rises this year are not ruled out.

Unlike the Nordic mills, American newsprint machines are working at full capacity, and United States newspapers are seeking to buy Scandinavian newsprint.

New move today to end Rover strike

By R. W. Shakespeare

Senior British Leyland management together with shop floor and union representatives, will today resume crucial negotiations aimed at trying to end a strike by foremen, supervisors and technicians which has seriously disrupted production of Rover cars, Land-Rovers and Range Rovers for the past week.

Members of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs at the Rover assembly plant at Solihull, and at five factories in the Birmingham area, are now involved in the stoppage, which arises from the introduction of new working arrangements aimed at stepping up output of saloon cars.

About 400 foremen and supervisors walked out early last week after a group of foremen in the paint shop at Solihull had refused to cooperate in the new arrangements under which meal breaks are being staggered, so that assembly lines can remain in continuous production.

Later, they were joined by 130 senior technicians at Solihull and by a further 200 ASTMS members at the Birmingham engines and transmissions factories.

After the strikers voted on Friday to stay out for another week, the talks with the management were started and then adjourned until today.

The company has asked all other employees to report for work as usual today in the hope that some vehicle production can be maintained. It has made it clear that neither shop floor workers nor administrative staff will be asked to do the work normally done by the men who are on strike.

Leyland wants to increase Rover car output to a target figure of 1,800 vehicles a week. The company claims that the new working arrangements have been fully negotiated with the unions. The foremen's grievances seem to centre on pay for giving supervisory "cover" during the new continuous operations throughout each shift.

Toolroom threat: Leaders of Leyland's 4,000 rebel toolroom workers are to step up their struggle for a separate identity.

The 60-strong Leyland Cars toolroom committee decided in Birmingham at the weekend to call a meeting of their supporters in June if no progress towards their demands for pay parity and separate negotiating rates is made before then.

At that meeting some form of industrial action is likely to be considered.

The toolmen, who have grown in numbers since last year's crippling strike over the issue, are angry at the continued refusal of Leyland to make any gesture towards meeting their demands.

Their leader, Mr Roy Fraser, said: "We intend to remind the company that our claim is still on the table.

"Toolroom workers tend to be fairly moderate in their approach, but even they have been so frustrated recently over the lack of progress that they will be demanding to see something done."

Support by Tories: The new approach at British Leyland would have the full support of a Conservative Government, according to Mr James Prior, the Opposition spokesman on Employment.

He has told the Conservative Trades Unionists/ASTMS Group that the Tories have confidence in Leyland's new chairman, Mr Michael Edwardes and his plans for the company's future. "We shall support British Leyland in every possible way", he said in a statement.

Mr Prior's statement said: "I think it is immensely important for the country and for people in export markets to realize that there will be continuity and a future for British Leyland that goes beyond the lifetime of this Government.

Saudis 'will oppose dearer oil'

Washington, April 23.—Saudi Arabian energy officials have said they would continue to oppose any increases in oil prices during 1978, despite mounting pressures for rises at next June's meeting, according to a Congressional report of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries made public yesterday.

The report was written by members of the House of Representatives International Relations Committee who visited Saudi Arabia and other Middle East countries in January.

Reporting on the trip, they said Saudi officials recognized the positive impact the oil price freeze Opec adopted in January, 1977 had made on world economic stability and the organization's growth.

"Saudi Arabian officials advised the study mission that they would continue to oppose any increase in the price of oil through 1978 despite mounting pressures within Opec to increase prices at the next Opec meeting in June, 1978", the report said.—Reuter.

Mr Izzeddin Mabrouk, Libyan Oil Minister, said at the weekend political differences in Opec were preventing agreement on new crude oil price rises.

Mr Mabrouk told the Kuwait daily newspaper Al RaiAl Am that Libya still believed in the necessity of a price increase, but that the political climate in some Opec countries made such an increase "inaccessible".

This was an apparent reference to Opec moderates, such as Saudi Arabia, which managed to impose a price freeze at Opec's meeting in Caracas last December.

City Working Party to revise Takeover Code

By Christopher Wilkins

A comprehensive revision of the Takeover Code in 1979 is being planned by the City Working Party. This will be the fourth full-scale revision since the first edition of the Code was published just 10 years ago.

Such a proposed revision is unlikely to involve any radical reshaping of the present Code, which was last redrafted in April 1976. Most of the changes will represent the consolidation of various developments in takeover practice, as interpreted by the Takeover Panel, since the 1976 revision.

Administering the Code is the Panel's job, but revising it and keeping it up to date is the responsibility of the City Working Party, which was originally set up by the Governor of the Bank of England in 1967, and which represents leading financial and industrial bodies.

In its submission to the Wilson Committee on the functioning of financial institutions, the Panel reveals it is reexamining its rules in several areas. These include occasions where the necessity to make a bid can be waived, shut-offs at the end of an offer period, formula bids and partial bids.

The Panel reiterates its opposition to a statutory code in place of the present self-regulation of bids and mergers. It says it is still of the opinion "that it would not be possible to interpose a statutory body between the present organization and the Government without forfeiting many of the advantages of the present system".

Financial Editor, page 21

Lloyd's expected to ban three further 'outsiders'

By Peter Wainwright

It is almost certain that on Wednesday the 16-man Committee of Lloyd's, will reject three applications still pending to take over Lloyd's broking firms.

Last week the committee rebuffed bids by two large American groups. They were Frank B. Hall, the third biggest quoted American insurance broker, which wanted to buy Leslie & Godwin, and Marsh and McLennan, America's biggest broker, which sought Wigham Poland.

The three other companies—none understood to be large—will fall under the same ban as Hall and Marsh. Lloyd's has ruled that no outside insurance interest may normally hold more than 20 per cent of the equity of a broker seeking recognition at Lloyd's.

The key consideration for the committee was the independence of brokers so that they could continue to get the best terms for clients.

Mr John M. Regan, chairman of Marsh and McLennan, described Lloyd's decision as "a backward step which is not in the interest of free trade".

Some thought that Hall and Marsh could apply to join Lloyd's directly. But to be a Lloyd's member one would have to establish a registered United Kingdom subsidiary. This, if foreign owned, would, under the latest ruling, be ineligible to join.

Talks start on Rolls-Royce finance

By Our Industrial Editor

Proposals for refunding Rolls-Royce, the state-owned aero engine concern, are under joint study by the Department of Industry and the National Enterprise Board. The NEB has made a number of recommendations for the authorization of a big new development programme.

Negotiations have started on refinancing an NEB loan of £25.2m, due to expire in three months' time. Last year, the company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the NEB, received £30m in additional working capital in the form of equity and loans.

Sir Kenneth Keith, the chairman of Rolls-Royce, submitted a corporate plan to the NEB and the Government in December as a basis for future financial planning.

In the light of recent United States orders and studies of future aircraft designs, the Government has received from the NEB a series of recommendations covering the whole future of the company and its technical and commercial strategy.

Rolls-Royce has just reported a profit for 1977 of £16.6m, compared with a loss of £21.9m in 1976, after writing off the sum 63.3m in research and development costs for last year.

Sir Kenneth's corporate plan is believed to be based on planning now for a sizable demand for new equipment from the early 1980s.

He says: "This year promises to be the one in which airlines start to order replacements for their present fleets and to enlarge their capacity to handle the likely increase in traffic in the early 1980s."

Transfer of all legal titles to properties acquired from R-R Realisations after nationalization is to be completed this year. The original cost of these assets, now written off but still in use, is put at £95m.

Rolls-Royce now has a share capital of £250m, of which £196m is issued.

One of the matters likely to be covered in the review of financial requirements for future development could be a change in capital structure.

This would provide more headroom for equity investment now that the company is trading profitably, as opposed to a heavy dependence on interest-bearing NEB loans, most of which are due to expire in the next four years.

Although the need to fund British Leyland was very much at the heart of the recent increase in the NEB's financial ceiling on its own borrowing, it was always expected that Rolls-Royce's needs had also to be catered for within the statutory control.

Talks on dispute, page 19

Tax success needed for Blumenthal prestige

Decisions taken by Congress on President Carter's tax programme are likely to be of critical importance in determining the future of Mr Michael Blumenthal, Secretary of the Treasury, in the Administration.

Fully aware of this and of the growing dangers that Congress will radically alter the Administration's tax measures, the Secretary decided on Friday to cancel a planned trip for this week to Europe. The cancellation came as a surprise, but then Mr Blumenthal is under mounting pressure from the President to get good results from Congress.

In some respects the Treasury Secretary now appears as a tragic figure. He lacks the authority and power of many of his predecessors.

His prestige has never been great and he is constantly the subject of rumours and press reports that he is about to resign or that his relations with the President are strained and tense.

Since taking office some 15 months ago, he has been under constant White House pressure to draft and promote a whole series of complicated policies: the early 1977 economic stimulus programme, the tax reform legislation, new international monetary policies and the policies for United States relations with international financial institutions and the 1978 presidential economic programme.

Meanwhile, he has been expected to race around the country boosting business confidence, to lobby Congress to pass all manner of new initiatives and to take decisions to defend the dollar.

He might have been able to shoulder such a heavy load had he enjoyed the full confidence of the White House. But time and again the White House has undermined his authority, the most recent example being the President's decision to make Mr Robert Strauss the chief spokesman on the anti-inflation front.

It is against this background that it now appears that Mr Blumenthal is fighting for his political life.

A major problem, however, is that the pressures on him appear to be forcing him to neglect to some degree the international arena.

Having decided to stay at home this week he must now get some results in his dealings with Congress on tax reform and tax-cutting issues. If he fails, then his credibility next weekend at the International Monetary Fund meeting in Mexico City may be questioned.

But if he succeeds, then he may be able to confront fellow finance ministers with a fresh degree of authority and sound convincing about American aims and priorities in the international economic policy area.

Frank Vogl
in Washington

Norwegian group wins BNOC order

By Roger Vielvoye

A contract for diving and lifting work on the North Sea Thistle oilfield has been awarded to a Norwegian group, Seaway Offshore Work Platform, by the British National Oil Corporation.

The Norwegian company will use Seaway Swan, the newest and most sophisticated semi-submersible diving and maintenance vessel, for the month-long contract.

Seaway Swan, which cost 550m, will shortly leave the Rauma Repola construction yard in Finland for final fitting out in Norway. It is expected to begin work on Thistle in June.

The Stolt-Nielsens Norwegian shipping company is the major shareholder in Seaway Offshore Work Platform.

Another vessel in the Stolt-Nielsens fleet, the Seaway Vudcan is to continue working for the Phillips group on the Ekofisk field

British groups gain US Army contracts

Two British companies, Plessey Avionics & Communications and Marconi Space & Defence Systems, are now associated with United States companies in developing the next generation of mobile radio equipment for the United States Army.

Collins Telecommunications Products division of Rockwell International, in association with Plessey, has been awarded a $7m development contract in connexion with the "SINCGARS-V" (Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System, VHF) programme.

In another part of the same programme, Cincinnati Electronics is prime contractor and Marconi is major subcontractor on a $6.4m development contract.

Breakthrough by Congress chiefs on plans for energy legislation

From Our United States Economics Correspondent
Washington, April 23

Leaders of the United States Senate and the House of Representatives have agreed that price controls on natural gas sold in the United States will end on January 1, 1985. The decision represents a breakthrough in top-level congressional discussions on formulating energy legislation.

However, the Congress has made negligible progress so far on the even more important issue of imposing conservation taxes on oil sold here, and it may still be months before an Energy Bill is finally passed.

President Carter has publicly stated recently that he is getting impatient with Congress, and direct pressure by him has at least resulted in the agreement on natural gas pricing.

While the congressional leadership has agreed on gas price decontrol a major hurdle lies ahead on Wednesday when 43 members of the House and the Senate debate the agreement.

Even if this large committee approves the new decision, it must still be voted upon by both full Houses of Congress. The new agreement calls for phased price decontrol from the present level of $1.47 per thousand cubic feet.

On January 1, 1985, price controls will be removed entirely for a trial six-month period, and the new agreement calls for a review of deregulation by the Congress and Administration.

Some members of the Congress believe that a full Energy Bill will not be passed until the late summer, but it is clear that President Carter is not willing to wait so long.

He is personally lobbying hard with members of Congress and demanding that they approve his energy tax plans.

He is threatening to impose oil import tariffs unless Congress moves rapidly, although he has refrained so far from actually announcing a date by which he expects Congress to act.

But there appear today to be increasing numbers of congressmen who are not taking the energy situation as seriously as the Administration would like.

The believe there is a world oil surplus and the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries will, therefore, refrain from raising oil prices.

They believe that American oil imports will fall without an Energy Bill, and they point to latest developments to support this contention. In the past few months oil imports have declined by more than 10 per cent, and possible further reductions may result from increased output in Alaska.

Thus the congressional energy debate, which was triggered by the announcement by President Carter of a energy programme on April 20, 1977, lingers on.

Despite the natural gas pricing agreement by a number of congressional leaders, it is still far too early to predict the final form of the Energy Bill or when, if ever, it will be passed by Congress.

There are fears within the Administration that the continual delays over energy legislation will undermine efforts by the Treasury and the White House to strengthen international economic policy coordination and boost the dollar.

There are fears, for example, that the United States will be stripped of any possible influence it could have in the economic summit meeting in July unless Congress has by then passed a strong meaningful Energy Act.

Savings record

Total funds invested in National Savings securities and the National Savings Bank reached £10,000m for the first time at the end of the financial year 1977-78.

Net savings for the year, including accrued interest, amounted to a provisional figure of £1,868.7m, an all-time record.

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Lending rate 7½ pc

The Bank of England's minimum lending rate is 7½ per cent. The following are the results of Friday's Treasury Bill Tender:

Applications	£605.870.000	Allotted	£500m
Bids at	£98.555%	Received	11%
Prev wk	£98.36%	Received	60%
Average rate	£5.6676%	Prev week	£5.6691%
Next Friday	£500m	Replace	£500m

MANAGEMENT — Edited by Rodney Cowto

Fiat's advanced technology poses questions for British Leyland

Different aspects of the task of producing new car models are discussed by Clifford Webb and (below) Sydney Paulden

Senior British Leyland engineers spent a lot of time on the Fiat stand at the Turin Moor Show last week studying the construction of the Italian company's latest car—the Ritmo. And well they might, for the novel assembly processes behind this small family saloon could add a new dimension to the European motor industry's efforts to repel the Japanese.

Fiat has not only taken automated body assembly a big step forward but it also appears to have overcome the failure of existing mechanized systems, their lack of flexibility.

The Italians have broken away from the traditional assembly line. Unlike the much-publicized pioneering venture at Volvo, Fiat's Robogate system is geared for mass production—over 450,000 cars annually compared with a few thousand a year at Volvo's Kalmar plant.

But Robogate's effectiveness will still be suspect until there is ample evidence of the amount of "down time" necessary for repairs and maintenance. There is little doubt, however, that its concept—offering fewer workers, more output, *and* flexibility—promises exciting advantages to European car makers.

However, it does raise questions about the competitiveness in two years' time of the system British Leyland has chosen for its new Super Mini. Details are now circulating in the industry which makes it clear that although the British firm is investing in the most automated body-building line yet seen in this country, it *is* still based on traditional technology and geared for the production of a single model—to the tune of over 400,000 bodies a year.

Robogate, as installed at Rivalta and Cassino, can top this by 50,000 units, but can still be switched to produce another model in the course of a single shift. This ability to react quickly to market demand—and demand is notoriously fickle when you are serving markets in many countries—has long been an elusive target for the world's car makers.

Instead of a fixed assembly line, Fiat is using mobile pallets driven by battery-powered electric motors. These follow magnetic tapes hidden in the floor, and transport the body from ona welding station to another. The whole operation is computer controlled, another advantage which will not be available to the Super Mini.

Each of the welding stations is composed of a number of robots, some made in England by the American-owned Unimation Group, and others developed by Fiat's own technicians.

The name Robogate is a blend of robot and gate. The "gateline" method of welding car bodies is the one at present employed by most motor firms. The assembly line carries body panels through gates on either side of the track. These automatically close and a number of welding operations are carried out both manually and automatically.

In the new system, the gates remain but instead of fixed welding heads or workers, robots carry out all the welds.

Signor Nicola Tufarelli, head of Fiat's automotive companies, said Robogate only required 28 men to do the work previously done by 128. It was planned to introduce it throughout Fiat in the next five years, and already Chrysler wanted to adapt it for use in America.

Asked if the system would be available to firms such as British Leyland, he said: "We are open to similar approaches from any other car firms."

There will be no immediate decrease in the number of Fiat employees, because the company had to give an undertaking to the increasingly militant Italian unions that the introduction of Robogate would not cost a single job.

On the other hand, it does mean that if at some time in the future Fiat wants to make a substantial increase in production, it can do this with the same labour force.

It also enables Fiat to meet one of the motor industry's most pressing problems—boredom leading to strikes. Plant managers in this country are well acquainted with the "downer" which owes its origin to nothing more sinister than the depressing prospect of another eight hours of boring, repetitious work.

It is not generally realized when talking of this problem that the German and French motor industries counter this by employing large numbers of foreign workers—Turks, Italians from the south, Greeks, Algerians, and the like. Employed on short-term contracts, as little as ona year in some cases, they only have one objective, to earn as much as possible as quickly as possible, before they return home.

But Fiat like British Leyland employ a near 100 per cent national workforce—men who carry out the same task year in and year out. It is the id recruiting ground for militan

Now Fiat insist they h the means to counter this switching men from mer tasks to skilled maintena work. "The robots will do boring work while the hum will keep them going", Sig Tufarelli said.

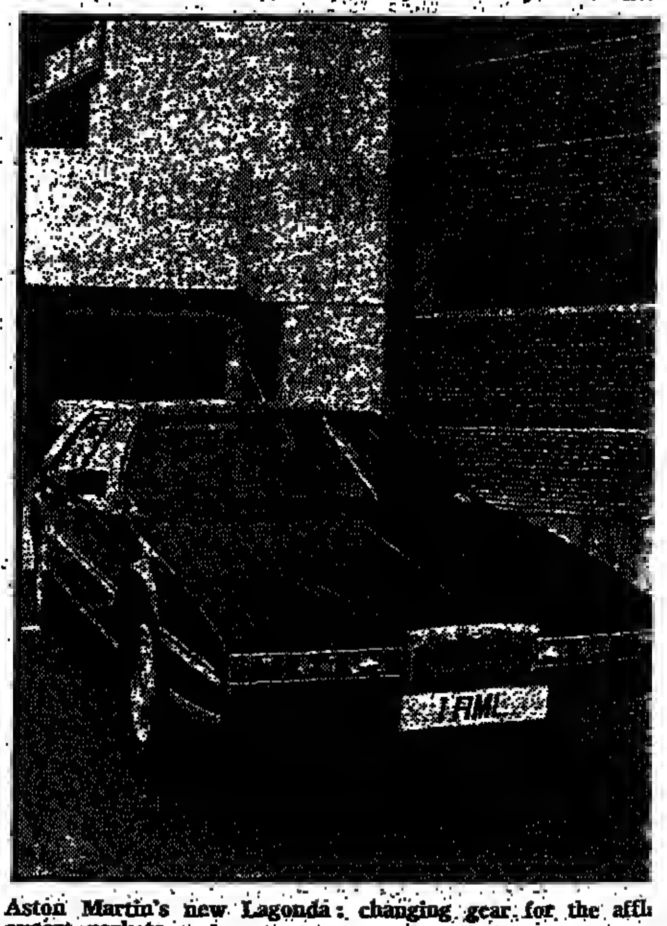
There are considerable g in this argument, however. all assembly line workers h the aptitude necessary to c vert to skilled maintena work, and additionally in United Kingdom they wo come up against demarcat barriers between unions. most British car plants ass bly men are members of Transport and Gen Workers' Union, while maintenance men belong to rival Amalgamated Union Engineering Workers.

The Super Mini body would seem to offer fe maintenance problems beca its mixture of robots stationary multiweld machi follows well-tested technol in existing Japanese and (man plants. But it is still enormous step forward Longbridge.

The present concentration rectification rather than ventative maintenance has been a bone of contention tween management and un there. The men prefer to si their cubbyhole waiting something to break before respond while managers wo like to stop the breakdo occurring in the first place.

Doubts are already b expressed in some quar about the Longbridge m tenance men's ability or de mination to keep the new I running. And a breakdown be just as costly as a strike.

Lagonda sets out on a new course



Aston Martin's new Lagonda: changing gear for the affl expert markets.

The fact that the world's most advanced car, a computerized Lagonda, is being handed over to its first customer today is in no small way due to the pressures of the Press.

Three years ago, Peter Sprague, now chairman of Aston Martin Lagonda (1975), read of the collapse of the old car firm in the obituary columns of the *New York Times.*

"The company was more famous dead than alive", he said. Stirred by what was written there, he cabled the receiver and flew to the United Kingdom from his farming retreat in the United States.

On his fact-finding visit to Newport Pagnell he fell in love, not so much with the car, but with the factory: "With the craftsmanship, the intelligence, the dedication of the workforce", he says. He decided he would like to save it all, but that it was essential to have an English partner in addition to the Canadian George Minden, the Aston Martin distributor in Canada, who was also desperate to do salvage operation.

That was when Alan Curtis came on the scene—a man who had made *his* name and *his* fortune in office property development and building. "I don't know anything about cars", Mr Curtis told Peter Sprague when they first met. "That makes no difference", was the reply. Now, Alan Curtis is the full time managing director of Aston Martin and has proved that management skills are effectively transferable. The company is thriving and riding merrily along on a full, profitable order book.

The company is small. Its total workforce is less than 400 and its annual turnover is no more than about £7m. Its interest to the British public and even to the world at large, however, is far out of proportion to its size. Anything that management does is scrutinized by the nation.

No sophisticated company plan rather a pattern has evolved through managerial instinct

The management's efforts so far, bear scrutiny and can offer lessons to others who are less in the limelight. There has not been any highly sophisticated company plan, but, nevertheless, a pattern has evolved through management by instinct on the part of highly experienced executives.

The first lesson was that this stately company could not be adequately managed by an absentee landlord. Those who had come to the rescue with a total of just over £1m were all busily engaged, remote from Newport Pagnell, in their other lucrative activities. Mr Sprague was in the United States, Mr Minden in Canada, George Flather, a fourth investor, was a retired Sheffield steel magnate. So, Alan Curtis, found executive responsibility thrust upon him and took the general manager's chair full-time.

The next big step was a clear statement of company objectives easily understood by every member of the company. Previously, workers were paid by a high hourly rate. If there was a rise in market demand for the cars, the shopfloor workers admit, they did overtime and more workers were also taken on. If demand slackened, to avoid redundancies, unproductive workers were kept on.

Now, every worker is guaranteed a good basic wage to contribute to the production of five complete cars a week. Bonus is paid to each worker on the sixth car. Joe Dorrill, formerly the works convenor, now on the works committee, says: "No one should be expected to mortgage up to the level of overtime. Bonus has to be treated as just that—bonus."

The incentive, however, is to increase productivity and ideas have been generated from the work sections. The four skilled men fitting all the cars mechanical parts have devised their own system of work, whereby they act as a team and change jobs to avoid monotony. This increases output and, at tha same time, it means that if one of them is away, then there is someone capable of doing tha necessary work to avoid halting production. Previously there were 500 men building five cars a week. Now, 390 men build *six*, and sometimes seven a week.

Although many of the workers are members of a union, no union has gained recognition for negotiations with the new management. Alan Curtis invited ACAS (Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service) to investigate the Transport and General Workers Union's claim for recognition in the factory. He called a general meeting of the total workforce and explained that the choice was theirs. Recognition was voted out.

There is a 12-man works committee, chaired by the production manager, with representatives of office staff and each main work section, such as the panel shop, electronics, engine shop and paint shop. Mr Curtis frequently attends, and is often in the factory with the first arrivals. "Talking to the directors", said one shopfloor worker, "is just the same as talking to anyone else around here. They listen, aven if they disagree."

The new management has increased the emphasis quality to suit a comple new breed of customer. In old days, the customer ten to be an Aston Martin fan but now Mr Curtis sees buyer as "the professi man, the successful busin man, married with a coupl kids. He does a lot of busi driving, wants to enjoy *journeys* and wants fault performance."

To achieve the right qu at a profit, Mr Curtis and colleagues raised the b price for the two-door stan car from about £16,000 £20,000. Orders increased.

Much of the new busines coming, of course, from United States, which form was a market used only to up slack when the British ket was at a low ebb.

Peter Sprague has been ting up a new stable of oughbred car dealers, con trating mainly in the regio California. When the proto of the new Lagonda was r last year, it was paintec silver and blue, bedecked references to the silver jul and given the prime showt at the Los Angeles car s "There were no Lagondas sale", he says, "but we actual orders for the stan Aston Martins every day of 10-day fair."

In the United Kingdom, company has taken the e ordinary step of forming own company to act as de for the London area. A Martin (Sales) has been se in Sloane Street because company could not fin really suitable existing de "That will be our p wherever we come up ag the same obstacle", say new owners.

"When we're ready expand, we'll do it in States, if necessary, too. least we can prove that the can provide a profit for a er." There has been sp attention given to the se hand car market, with expanded spares, service renovation division at Nev Pagnell, potting a strea superb old Astons back o road, in top condition.

Peter Sprague has been to provide as much gr input for Aston Martin he first imagined. In Am he took over National Sem ductors when it was in hands of a receiver and now claim it to be number t in the world in semi-condu tors after Texas Instrumen

;reenock moves into electronics era

Industry in the regions

unemployment consi... well above the national ...ge at 11 per cent ...nock, on the Firth of ..., is a town which more ...most has come to depend ... development area status.

...raditional industries of ...uilding and engineering ...ily declined to a level ..., happily, stabilized dur... the early 1970s, but the ...er of vacant factory ...ises available in ...nock and in neighbouring Glasgow and Gourock is ...dication that the area has ...red badly from the econ... recession of the past ...

...ever, there are signs the new industries which ...become established in the ... such as electronics, are ...ning to absorb some of ...lack in the local economy.

...ped by the various forms ...rnment aid available, by ...vailability of a labour ... with a tradition of ... skilled working, and the ...ibility to export markets ...he closeness of Glasgow ...Prestwick airports, IBM National Semiconductor, ...of the best known names ...ectronics, have become ...lished in the town.

...M's plant employs 2,000 of ...company's 13,000 jobs in ...in and from the start of ...ear has been recruiting as ...of a major expansion pro...me.

... it is the activities of ...nal Semiconductor over ...st year which has earned ... from the Scottish Office ...demonstrated to other ...anies considering moving ...e area that Greenock has ...much to offer in terms of ...ilient and adaptable pool ...our.

National Semiconductor's plant is the industry's first to be built exclusively for the production of four-inch wafers from which up to 1,780 micro-integrated circuits are cut. But what is more remarkable about the plant is that a year ago it was a pile of charred debris after a fire.

Mr Jerry Brandeberry, National Semiconductor's United Kingdom managing director, said: "The most valuable asset that any company can have is its staff. And that has proved doubly true for us in an industry which requires such high levels of skill, training and concentration.

"The dedication of the Greenock staff is beyond question. At the time of the fire the company employed 450, including production and office staff, engineers and designers. The day after the fire they turned up in strength to help the salvage and clearance work."

A decision had to be taken on redundancies and on when, and if, the Greenock plant should be rebuilt. Mr Floyd Kvamme, the company's vice-president in charge of Semiconductor production, flew in from the United States.

He said: "After seeing the damage and meeting the staff I got in touch by phone with our company president Charles Sporck who was in Bangkok at the time and we took the decision to go ahead and rebuild.

"We had a staff meeting and while it was inevitable that there would have to be lay offs we were reluctant to lose a trained and loyal workforce."

It was then that the company decided that if they couldn't provide jobs in Greenock they could in the United States where there are two other wafer fabrication plants at Santa Clara, California, and Salt Lake City, Utah.

Mr Brandeberry said: "We were delighted with the response. In all 125 men and women went to the United States factories. They stayed for periods of between three and eight months learning different production techniques and how to handle other equipment.

"This practical experience has now given us a flying start with the new four-inch wafer. We have been able to start full production immediately on completion of tests and we consider that the plant now has the most highly skilled staff in Europe.

"The speed with which the plant was back in operation—just eight months passed from the fire to the first wafer coming off the production line—is a measure of the attitude of the whole area.

"Support from local and regional government offices, from contractors and sub-contractors, architects, consulting engineers, surveyors, and everyone who has been involved to the smallest degree, has helped us achieve what most people thought was impossible at the time of the fire—to get back into production within the year."

The factory is now building up its workforce—those who had to be laid off have been offered their jobs back where possible and all have accepted—and by 1980 it is hoped to build the workforce up to nearer 800.

The plant will be exporting 75 per cent of its output, much of it to Europe. Much of the design work is for European television set makers who incorporate up to 10 times more value in integrated circuits than their American counterparts. Partly this is because more and more digital functions are being added to the basic set.

The products made at Greenock are particularly suitable for the consumer product makers because of their quality and reliability. The plant operates a quality level of less than 0.1 per cent on linear circuits as a minimum standard, compared with the industry standard of 0.5 per cent.

Another possible outlet for the plant's products could be the motor industry. National Semiconductor's chairman is Peter Sprague, the young Californian who is best known in Britain as the rescuer of Aston Martin Lagonda, which now incorporates electronic control systems in its new luxury saloon.

Mr Sprague said: "What has happened at Greenock is quite amazing. A year ago we had a pile of debris and the prospect of losing a well trained and enthusiastic workforce. With the help of local and regional government and the people at Greenock we now have a highly productive and efficient plant in operation after less than 12 months."

David Young

Business appointments

Tate & Lyle makes board changes

Mr Saxon Tate has been appointed group managing director of Tate & Lyle. He continues as chairman of the board's executive committee. Mr James Forbes has joined the company as a senior executive director with special responsibility for finance.

Mr F. R. D. Holland, chairman and chief executive of the C. E. Heath Group, is resigning as chairman and director of C. E. Heath (Insurance Broking) and the aviation, international, life and pensions, marine, North America, North American reinsurance broking and United Kingdom companies. Mr R. A. Bell has become a non-executive director.

The following appointments have been made: C. E. Heath (Insurance Broking): Mr J. R. Mikami (chairman), Mr J. J. Burton and Mr R. J. G. Shaw deputy chairmen, Mr N. J. Chamberlain, Mr A. W. Frost, Mr D. R. Gilham, Mr R. A. Green, Mr P. O'Grady, Mr M. F. B. Ward, directors; C. E. Heath (Aviation): Mr Mikami (chairman), Mr D. P. Trezies, managing director; C. E. Heath (International): Mr Shaw chairman and remaining managing director; C. E. Heath, Urquhart (Life & Pensions): Mr D. H. Newton, chairman, remaining managing director; C. E. Heath (Marine): Mr Bell, chairman, Mr Frost, managing director, Mr V. Welch, director; C. E. Heath (North America): Mr Burton chairman, remaining managing director; C. E. Heath (North American Reinsurance Broking): Mr K. D. Gillies, chairman, remaining managing director, Mr R. H. Rofe, director; C. E. Heath (UK): Mr R. C. Pooley, chairman, remaining managing director, Mr W. M. McDonald, director; C. E. Heath & Co (Latin America): Mr Shaw gives up the managing directorship but remains chairman, Mr A. J. Hamilton, managing director.

Mr H. K. Fitzgerald, chairman of Eastern Produce (Holdings), has joined the board of Associated Fisheries.

Mr J. Wrigley is now on the board of May and Hassell.

The new managing director of John Haddon is Mr T. E. Romp, who succeeds Mr R. N. Oliver on May 1.

Dr Hans Gunther Zempelin has been made a director of British Enkalon.

Mr D. A. Whitaker has been appointed to the board of Brush Switchgear.

Mr Graham Binns is now a director of Walport Telmar International and will succeed Mr Geoffrey Nugus as managing director from May 15.

After the acquisition of Daniels and Daniels and Continental Fashions (Leicester) by Alpha Leather, Mr S. P. Daniels and Mr R. R. Garrard have been appointed to the board of Alpha. Mr M. Morrison-Jones and Mr C. Butterworth also join the board.

Mr C. J. Spence joins the board of The English Association.

Mr R. S. Leighton and Mr G. Fitton have been appointed to the board of A. J. Mills (Holdings).

Mr G. F. Owen becomes deputy chairman of Weston-Evans Group. Mr G. Ferguson Lacey, Mr R. C. McBride and Mr T. Ryan join the board.

Dr A. Kent has been appointed a director and financial controller of Leigh Interests. Mr C. E. Wilkinson becomes managing director of Effluent Disposal, a subsidiary of Leigh Interests.

Mr R. W. Cook becomes group managing director of High Mead Engineering Holdings.

Encik Yahya Bin Ismail joins the board of Kinta Kellas Tin Dredging.

Mr Richard Dennis and Mr Norman Walling have been appointed to the board of Rediffon Computers.

Mr M. W. O'Brart, Mr D. C. Ashby, Mr G. A. Mansbridge and Mr B. Moore have become directors of Hogg Robinson and Gardner Mountain International.

Mr G. H. Lidstone becomes executive vice-chairman of Air West and Mr Michael Heathcote Amory joins the board.

Mr Gerry Pickett has been appointed to the board of Ridat Engineering.

...w attempt to ... dispute ...Rolls-Royce

...ew move is expected to be ... today to end the three ...old wages dispute at the ...Royce aeroengine com... in Coventry which has ... two factories and made ...workers idle.

...use of the deadlock local ...ave discussed the issues ... the management. Mr ...ey Robinson, Labour MP, ...try NW, has urged a ...point peace formula. He ...s that the company pays ... 10 per cent wage claim ... manual workers and ne...s the piece-work griev... a separate basis.

Standstill threat for Courtaulds plant at Coventry

The big Courtaulds man-made fibre company in Coventry could be brought to a standstill today if the production force obey a call by shop stewards for strike action. The stewards for seven weeks have been concerned over a dispute in the firm's carbon fibre plant where 32 workers have been on strike claiming more pay and improved labour manning levels.

On Friday, the 32 received dismissal notices after their rejection of a company offer on their grievances. Now, 600 workers are expected to attend a meeting today to ratify a shop stewards call to withdraw their labour.

Swedes answer chipboard dumping charges

By R. W. Shakespeare

Persistent reports that Swedish manufacturers are "dumping" chipboard on the British market have been strongly challenged by the managing director of one of the largest Scandinavian producers.

His blunt reply to British manufacturers who complain about competition is that if they improved the quality of their products and gave the kind of service that customers expected most of their problems would cease to exist.

Earlier this month, the British Wood Chipboard Manufacturers' Association claimed something of a victory when negotiations conducted through the European Commission resulted in agreements under which Swedish and Spanish manufacturers will observe minimum price and export levels to Britain. The association is now urging similar agreements with Finland, Romania, Norway and Portugal.

Dr Monty Nicholls, chairman of the association, is on record as saying: "This is the only way to conserve United Kingdom-based processing capacity and consequently a flourishing wood growing industry."

Although the board industry attracts less general attention than other sectors like cars, electronics and textiles that have been at the centre of political argument over import controls, it is a key area with enormous markets in furniture manufacturing and construction.

The Scandinavians pioneered the product and the technology for its manufacture and carried out huge marketing operations in Britain. The Swedes, in particular, feel aggrieved that they are the target for "dumping" allegations.

Mr Gunnar Munthe, managing director of Fineboard (the parent company is at Valber, Sweden), told me in an interview at the weekend: "The way British producers are rushing around Europe accusing almost everybody of dumping reminds me of history lessons in which we were taught that governments faced with difficulties at home used to declare war on some other country in order to make its own population forget its problems.

"I suggest that if all the British particle board manufacturers not only produced the quality required by the market, but also gave the service one should expect of a home producer—for instance, quick deliveries from stock—buyers would prefer to give them their business. After all British mills have the potential to meet about 50 per cent of the United Kingdom's consumption."

Mr Munthe claimed that the West German, French and Belgian view of the United Kingdom market, as being one that could be used for off-dumping when they felt it necessary, was very different from the responsible attitude taken by Nordic suppliers who had a long-term interest in the market.

He said: "One has only to go back to 1976 to see how certain Continental producers ruined the United Kingdom market by accepting bad advice from both agents and importers and selling at levels far below that prevailing at the time."

Mr Munthe said that although production had exceeded demand for about four years consumption was continuing to increase, no new mills were being built and particle boards were constantly finding new markets. He expected production and demand to level out within the next year.

He added: "As far as the Scandinavian producers are concerned they very rightly consider the United Kingdom as one of their tradional markets. They have stuck to the market through thick and thin receiving very little compensation when sterling dropped catastrophically.

"Sweden has for centuries been a major trade partner with the United Kingdom and fairness has always prevailed between the two countries. If we all spent more time on further improving not only our products but also the service we offer, the volume of our sales would increase more rapidly and supply would sooner catch up with demand."

Tests of new chemicals to cost more

By Our Industrial Correspondent

Much greater expenditure would be required in industrialized countries for the testing of new chemicals, Mr Edward Langley, Deputy Chief Inspector of Factories, Health and Safety Executive said at the weekend.

The requirement for more investigation into the properties of substances would undoubtedly tend to slow innovation, but these costs should not be regarded as an unnecessary burden. The cost incurred in compensating those who might become victims of inadequately tested chemicals, he stressed, was not to be overlooked.

In the past 10 years, he said, about four million new chemicals had been identified, and from 1950-70 annual world production of synthetic organic chemicals had increased from seven million tons to 63 million tons. At this rate, production in 1987 could be 250 million tons. It was estimated that between 20,000 and 30,000 chemicals were being manufactured in quantities greater than one ton a year.

Addressing the Belgian Association of Business Lawyers in Brussels, Mr Langley said that there had been wide and growing public concern at the number of incidents of people being exposed to toxic substances arising from ignorance, neglect or accident.

On the proposed statutory scheme for the notification of toxic substances in the United Kingdom, he said that the main objectives were to assess potential hazards and to assist the Health and Safety Executive in early detection of such hazards.

Setback to hopes of agreement on an EEC policy for shipbuilding

By Peter Hill

European governments are deeply divided over the European Commission's plans for restructuring the Community's shipbuilding industry. Hopes of an early agreement have received a further setback.

It is nearly seven months since the Commission outlined a plan for reorganization based on a draft by commission experts under the direction of Viscount Etienne Davignon, the Commissioner for Industry.

The Davignon plan met with strong opposition from a number of member states and from shipbuilding industry organizations throughout the Community. Leading opponents are Britain and Italy, while France is largely supporting the plan.

In the wake of the opposition, which suggested that capacity would have to be cut back by 45 per cent between the end of last year and the early 1980s along with the loss of between 50,000 and 60,000 jobs, the Commission was obliged to call for detailed observations.

The Council of Ministers is expected to discuss the plan again at its meeting in June. But the *ad hoc* group of government officials from the member states which was asked to discuss and submit its views to the Community's Council of Permanent Representatives will shortly submit a critical assessment of the Davignon scheme.

Officials completed their discussions at the weekend and it is clear that wide differences still exist. There is general agreement that the industry is faced with a major crisis and that some action has to be taken to stabilize the position, and to carry through some form of rationalization.

But the countries are deeply divided over the form and scope which the measures should take and it is clear that prolonged discussions will be required before agreement can be reached.

Britain remains strongly opposed to any formal target being set for capacity reduction throughout the industry. This has been made abundantly clear in public statements by senior executives of British Shipbuilders and Mr Gerald Kaufman, Minister of State for Industry.

The United Kingdom has taken the lead in the international subsidy race in order to secure orders, and is involved in negotiation with the commission over the introduction of a further tranche of subsidy money to aid the shipyards.

The ad hoc committee's report, it is understood, will make clear the need for the commission to reconsider its approach to capacity reduction.

Japanese officials have criticized the spread of subsidies and other forms of aid in European countries.

Bond sales concession to Italians

From John Earle
Rome, April 23

Italian holders of foreign shares and bonds bought before July 27, 1973, are to be allowed to switch their holdings into other foreign shares and bonds without being subject to the 50 per cent deposit imposed on that date.

Signor Vittorio Barattieri, adviser at the Ministry of Foreign Trade, wrote in a newspaper article today that the ministry was preparing a circular on the subject, adding that the foreign investments potentially affected were estimated at more than $1,000m.

The circular was designed to bring two important benefits. First, Italian bodies raising funds through Eurobond issues would be able to count on potential Italian buyers. Second, owners of foreign holdings would, by switching, be able to increase the return on them.

New purchases of bonds would, however, have to have a maturity not superior to the original investment.

Household theft figures up by more than 35 pc

Insured theft losses in Britain rose from £48.4m to £64.2m last year, according to the British Insurance Association.

Thefts from homes climbed by more than 35 per cent—the highest increase recorded for one year and accounting for nearly half of the total losses.

Mr Pat Bartrum, chairman of the BIA Crime Prevention Panel, said: "Theft losses from private homes have increased during the last four years by 200 per cent which is more than double the rate of inflation over the same period.

£75m satellite contracts for British Aerospace

By Kenneth Owen
Technology Correspondent

Contracts worth £75m have been awarded to the Stevenage space division of British Aerospace dynamics group as prime contractor after the recent approval of the European Space Agency's European Communication Satellite (ECS) and Marots B satellite programmes.

About £15m of the total will go to the British company, and the remainder to the other members of the European MESH consortium and to payload contractors.

Members of the consortium include Matra, France; ERNO, West Germany; Saab-Scania, Sweden; Aeritalia, Italy; Fokker-VFW, the Netherlands; and INTA, Spain.

The ECS (the contract covers one to be launched and one spare) will be an operational regional communication satellite, able to carry a substantial proportion of future European telephone, telex and television traffic.

It will be launched in 1981 by a European Ariane rocket.

It will be based on the technology of the European Space Agency's Orbital Test Satellite (OTS), which also was built by the MESH group.

New commercial vehicle sales up

Sales of new commercial vehicles in Britain in the first three months of this year totalled 61,953, a rise of 9.7 per cent over the same period of 1977, according to the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders.

Sales for March, at 20,384, were slightly lower than for March 1977. Market leader was British Leyland (27 per cent), followed by Ford (23.1 per cent), Bedford (17.3 per cent) and Chrysler (7 per cent).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Why there is insecurity among Post Office engineering staff

From Mr B. Pickard

Sir, You published a letter on April 12 from Sir William Barlow, chairman of the Post Office, concerning forthcoming technological change within the Post Office. I consider that this letter abounds with inaccuracy and misconceptions directed towards the engineering grades.

It appears that both Sir William Barlow and Brian Stanley (Post Office Engineering Union General Secretary) are both ignorant of the deep feeling of insecurity and frustration that has set into the engineering grades and are concentrating their efforts into using these grades as a pawn in their own power game.

Sir William Barlow states: "Unfortunately we often find that employees believe that their particular kind of job on existing equipment is something that they should be permitted to carry out throughout the whole of their career and we have considerable problems in persuading people to accept training and redeployment on to new types of equipment." This statement is a gross inaccuracy and affront to all technical officers on the PO. We as a grade have always accepted new equipment such as STD, ISD, Transit, TXK1, TKE2, for example, in the past 10 years and have always considered ourselves in a constant process of training.

It must be pointed out that the PO run numerous training schools throughout the country and, just taking one of these, for example Stone Training Centre, the true picture of cooperation becomes clear. Most courses last on average four weeks—that is, four weeks away from both family and home, four weeks of travelling on average 200 to 300 miles in your own time on Sunday night to arrive for an eight o'clock start on Monday and then the same return journey again in your own time after four o'clock on a Friday night for the grand allowance of £1.80 a night. I challenge Sir William Barlow to name any other company where this would not only be accepted but accepted willingly. Is this the so-called reluctance to accept progress and retraining?

It has also been stated that the attitude of "What's in it for us" is shortsighted and undesirable, but for years this has been the attitude of both PO and consumer. The PO has gained a £300m profit last year and an even larger projected profit for this year. The consumer has gained £100m refund, price freeze on charges for three years, and a more modern and efficient service. The technical officer on the other hand has gained a lower standard compared with outside industry, an even lower standard compared to other grades in the PO if the restructuring proposals put forward by the PO are to be taken seriously, and so called productivity payments that look more like a rise in pocket money for girl guides than a sensible reward to the people who are the backbone of any productivity and new working practice within the PO.

Sir William Barlow holds Japan up as a yardstick, but now they are reaping the rewards from far-sighted management that realizes that increasing technological change go hand in hand with co[...]able financial and [...] remunerations. On the [...]cial side they have gone [...] comparatively lower wag[es] years ago to compar[...] higher wages now, whi[...] have stood still, despi[te] vast amount of change i[n] own industry. On the [...] side they have guara[nteed] employment, consul[tation] throughout the company [not] just with a few so called [repre]sentatives on the board [but] with the whole staff—and [they] are now working sh[orter] hours.

A recent report states [that] we could stand to lose 7[...] to 90,000 telecommunica[tions] jobs by the 1980s thr[ough] modernization. How many [of] these could be saved by in[tro]ducing a 35-hour week? [...] why have the PO not propo[sed] some well financed and [con]trolled *voluntary* redunda[ncy] scheme to be voted on by [the] everyday PO worker.

British management seem[s to] hold Japan up as a technolo[gi]cal and business Utopia, [but] management itself will [not] change—it still employs hi[gh] handed attitudes which [in] return are met by uni[on] obduracy, and the only o[nes] who are not consulted, a[nd] therefore suffer, are t[he] employees.

Come on: let us s[ee] management and unions st[op] this ritual confrontation a[nd] come together and listen to t[he] employees for once.

B. PICKARD,
17 Bolam Avenue,
North Shields,
Tyne & Wear.

Metrication: consumers in revolt

From Mr Oliver Lodge

Sir, In his ultimatum on the metrication changeover to trade associations and consumer groups (*The Times*, April 19) Mr John Fraser says that the resistance to orders prohibiting the use of impeiral units of measure has led the Government to review whether it can "*still* claim to have universal support for metrication".

What led the Government to believe that such a claim was ever justified? The population at large never has been and, I suppose, never will be consulted? If it were, an overwhelming majority of consumers would, I believe, express wholehearted disapproval of the changeover. The disapproval is not based on mere conservatism. In the case of repairs and part-replacements, the changeover creates very real problems.

For example, where a few floorboards need replacing, boards cut in standard metric widths do not fit the spaces to be filled. The customer has either to suffer the expense and delay of having boards specially cut or to put up with an ill-fitting floor. Likewise, metric bath plugs do not fit imperial plug holes. *And so on.*

I hope that the bodies now being consulted will leave the Government in no doubt that the changeover is widely disliked, resented and opposed.

Yours faithfully,
OLIVER LODGE,
33 The Little Boltons,
London, SW10.
April 19.

From the Rev J. H. Biddell

Sir, I refer to your front p[age] today, April 19: "The Gove[rn]ment is unhappy over the h[os]tility towards changeo[ver] plans" (to metrication):

(a) What did the Gove[rn]ment expect?

(b) How many civil serva[nts] are engaged in this nonsense[?]

(c) Congratulations to [...] firms which are resisting[.]

(d) Is their any chance [of] this or any government hav[ing] an intelligent change of m[ind] in this matter?

(e) If the mile goes, I th[ink] I shall emigrate!

Yours faithfully,
J. H. BIDDELL,
Milverton Vicarage,
Taunton,
Somerset.
April 19.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Gauging the health of the banks

...e the Bank of England, as part of ...extension of its supervisory powers ...commercial banks in the wake of ...ndary banking crisis, laid down ...s for prudential balance sheet ...September 1975, the emphasis has ...capital adequacy rather than the ...ratios that by and large determined ...al assets structure in the past.

...week's report on bank charges ...Price Commission as well as in ...dence to the Wilson Committee, ...ing banks too, at least publicly, ...ded to measure their own health ...of whether they are generating ...retained earnings to support ...sheets whose totals have been ...y pushed up by inflation

...use no bank can ever lose sight of ...ands of liquidity, which is needed ...other things to meet demand for ...or withdrawal of deposits, losses ...and operating expenditure and all ...rers keep a daily weather-eye on ...ratios which take in a variety of ...ratios including reserve assets, cash ...ching of lendings. And the Bank of ...also closely monitors the liquidity ...of the banks both in sterling and ...currency as well as wholesale and ...eposits.

...k Weyer, a vice-chairman of Barclays

...Bank of England is at present work-...wards the development of liquidity for the banking system both as part ...White Paper on banking due later ...ar and also to bring the United King-...into line with last year's EEC banking ...e which requires member states to ...h various safety ratios.

...nally, too, there is growing pressure ...ing the pendulum away from crude ...ements of capital towards liquidity, ...of the drawbacks of the existing free ...ratio laid down by the Bank of Eng-...which sought to replace the rough-...y capital to deposits ratio with a ...e of the banks' ability to meet its ...es from "free capital" (that is not ...in premises or investments), is that ...to distinguish between wholesale and deposits.

...e inadequate disclosure will still ...it impossible to gauge a bank's ...y because general provisions are set ...advances and depreciation is simi-...etted off against the book value of ...it is nevertheless possible to assess ...id assets and what this appears to ...is that the London clearing banks ...be able to avoid capital raising exer-...nless there is a rapid build-up in ...es.

...ver Panel

...onstrating ...bility

...Department of Trade proceeds with ...ns to incorporate chunks of the ...er Code into anti-fraud legislation, it ...n head on into opposition from the ...er Panel whose job it is to administer ...de.

...he Panel points out, "there is an ...variety in bids and in the companies ...ch they operate", and the essence ...present system is that it can respond ...to developments which expose ...in its armour. Thus it is the spirit rather than the letter of the Code which counts.

The point is underlined by the news that the Panel is now actively looking at its rules as a result of several recent cases. For instance, following the Wilkinson Match/Allegheny Ludlum case, the Panel is considering how much scope it should exercise in waiving the operation of Rule 34—requiring a bid when a stake of more than 30 per cent is built up—if shareholders in a general meeting accept what is proposed.

Again, the Panel has taken the case of BTR'S bid for Silentbloc as the occasion to reconsider its rules on shut-off dates for successful bids and whether distinctions should be drawn between cash and share exchange offers. Following the spate of investment trust bids at the end of last year the Panel is investigating the issues raised by formula bids, and the abortive Rheem International offer for Redfearn National has prompted a new look at partial bids.

Of all these issues, partial bids is perhaps most indicative of the flexibility which a self-regulating system can afford. In earlier days the Code frowned on partial bids on the grounds that shareholders should not be left locked into a company in a minority position without their consent. More recently, however, the Panel has been prepared to sanction partial bids, perhaps because they were the only form of bid open to an offeror. In the United States they are permitted freely and there has been growing pressure for them to be allowed here. Whether the Panel is right to have relaxed its attitude to partial bids is a moot point, but it would be unfortunate if a legislative system left it without the flexibility to respond to a changing climate and meet each case on its own merits.

Oil shares

Worries about US energy policy

News that Exxon has been trying to forge some kind of relationship with Rio Tinto-Zinc has revived stockmarket rumours in this country that Shell was reviving its interest in the group as well. But with the depressing backdrop for the world oil industry it is hardly surprising that the oil majors would have begun to accelerate their diversification strategies to become more broadly based natural resources groups.

Recent results from the oil groups have underlined the damage being done to profits by negligible growth in crude oil markets while further downstream in oil products it is as much as they can do to make ends meet. And there is little chance of any alleviation in this. Last week Shell in its annual report indicated that with new non-Opec sources of crude from the North Sea, Alaska and Mexico demand will not begin to catch up with world capacity until the 1980s.

In a lengthy tour round the "labyrinthine complexity" of United States energy policy, stockbrokers W. Greenwell suggest that the outcome of this confrontation will be the major determinant of oil shares in 1978. If Carter is successful with his proposed crude oil equalization tax which is designed to raise the cost of domestic crude to the refiner in stages to the world level by 1980 without increasing revenues received by the crude producers and passing on the higher crude cost to consumers to encourage conservation, then oil companies operating in the United States are going to face even more squeezed profits than hitherto.

With its oil operations in the United States one of the backbones of the Shell group and British Petroleum an increasingly orientated United States group following its Alaskan discoveries and the build-up of its Sohio stake, it is inevitable that the outlook for the United States market will dominate share prices, especially as in the case of BP Wall Street buying has come to be a major influence on the shares.

Indeed, if research into the way oil price levels have been fixed already is right, which suggests that refined product prices are already at the competitive level and that to raise them further would invite imports, the position for the United States oil groups is even worse since Greenwell estimate that up to $13,000m of refiners' pre-tax margins would have to be passed onto the consumer if Carter's proposals are effected.

Hugh Stephenson

Defining the monetary constraints

Ten years ago the Bank of England, the Treasury and the International Monetary Fund invented a new statistical concept, Domestic Credit Expansion. Mr Jenkins, as Chancellor in the wake of the 1967 sterling devaluation, was faced with the problem that the balance of payments was not coming right as predicted. The terms of a letter of intent were under negotiation.

The concept of DCE is simple enough. If the economy is running a deficit, the outflow reduces the increase in the domestic money stock in any given period. In such circumstances, any given figure for the increase in M1, M3 or any other measure of money understates the way in which domestic monetary policy is affecting the economy in general and the balance of payments in particular. The 1969 letter of intent tied the then Labour government to DCE targets.

When, after the Barber monetary explosion, the government was once again forced to give serious thought to monetary economics, attention shifted from DCE to more purely domestic measurements of monetary expansion. The IMF, to be sure, continued to show interest in DCE. But that is because the IMF as an institution, whatever it may protest to the contrary, is almost exclusively concerned with a country's balance of payments performance. It may have an intellectual concern for issues like economic growth and inflation. By its constitution, however, it gets in on the act when, and only when a country is in balance of payments difficulties.

The relevance of DCE in this context is that it operates in much the same way as the classic gold standard was supposed to work. Under that classic model, when a country was in deficit, specie was exported to provide the finance, causing domestic M to contract until the point where the deficit was turned into a surplus. With a DCE target, the further a country moves into external deficit, the tighter domestic monetary policy has to become, if that target is to be observed.

Recent monetarism, however, has been concerned less directly with the balance of payments than with the relationship between domestic M and domestic inflation, output, and the rest. The paradox here is that keeping down the level of increase in M is more difficult when a currency is strong, because the inflows swell the domestic money supply. It is easier when the currency is under pressure and money is flowing out across the exchanges.

This fact explains the growing conclusion, as the markets have had time to digest what Mr Healey said in his Budget speech, that the Chancellor was cheating. He noted that in the last year, "greater attention has rightly been focussed on sterling M3 . . . rather than on DCE . . . it is right to recognize this by making a target range for sterling M3 the focus of our monetary policy".

Apart from the *non sequitur* in the argument, suspicious minds have concluded that the "focus" has gone on to the M3 target of an increase of 8 to 12 per cent, rather than on the DCE target of an increase of less than £6,000m, because the first is going to be very much easier to achieve than the second.

It is certainly true that, with the exchange rate once again under downward pressure, the M3 target should be achievable, without a reversion to an acceptably high interest rate. The DCE forecast (it does not seem to have quite the status of an official target) is, however, open to a good deal more question.

Such suspicions will no doubt find echoes in the IMF. It is unclear, however, why they should cause concern to those who have been urging monetary orthodoxy on the Chancellor. The prime present concern here is with the course of inflation. Even with such an open economy as ours, it is difficult to see the process by which a larger DCE can contribute to inflation, if it is combined with a domestic money supply being held within bounds.

The only possible transmission mechanism could be through the exchange rate. To the extent that a large DCE was financing a further drop in the exchange rate, more inflation could be reimported back into the economy through a rise in sterling imports prices.

If, however, the exchange rate was supported, this would remove both that argument and further reduce pressure to increase domestic money supply as the authorities intervened in the exchanges to buy in sterling. Believing monetarists ought therefore to be satisfied if the Chancellor meets his M3 target alone.

Has the Opposition the courage to fight retrospective tax laws?

It will be the function of the Opposition to draw attention to this issue in the forthcoming debate; to demonstrate that Mr Healey is driving in precisely the wrong direction. When he tightens the screw and condemns 'a conspiracy to mislead' he is pushing tax avoidance underground and assuring that it will continue to develop and prosper.

This year the Finance Bill debate begins on May 8. The 65 clauses and 12 schedules have been allotted three days on the floor of the House before going upstairs to a finely balanced standing committee.

Finance Bill debates have recently become needle match affairs reflecting polarized political attitudes towards taxation in this country. On my right there is a strong conviction that high income tax is a big obstacle to economic progress and could be substantially reduced; that a variety of factors, fiscal drag, increased insurance contributions, the squeeze on middle incomes, all point to far, far bigger reductions than Mr Healey has so far offered.

On my left there is the concept of taxes as a socially equalizing mechanism: an unrelenting urge to maintain the steep progressiveness of the scale and the high marginal rates; to crush tax avoidance as a rich man's sport and ultimately to bring in a wealth tax.

The tenseness of the situation at Westminster, widespread resentment of high taxes and some controversial features of the Bill, the retrospective clauses capable of being attacked as bad law, will all contribute to the sharpness of the debate. Hopefully they will add a touch of urgency to counter the leisurely debating style adopted by some members.

Since the Budget speech, disappointment with the income tax reductions has been expressed by the CBI and other representative bodies. Will they be able to enlist Mr Pardoe and his Liberal colleagues in support of their cause? Will the Liberals be prepared to press for say another £900m reduction in the higher rate income tax scale, a widening of the bands to counter the National Insurance contribution increases tactfully forgotten in the Budget sums for the benefit of middle management?

If so, it is hard to see Mr Healey giving ground. To forgo a yield on that scale seems to undermine all his Budget arithmetic. The same would be true of reductions costing £600m per penny off the 34 per cent basic rate. Nor does it seem likely, for constitutional reasons, that combined opposition parties could force through indirect tax increases, for example, VAT at 10 per cent to finance the income tax giveaway.

As for the suggestion that the compensatory yield could be found from "waste in Government expenditure" and "trimming allocations to the National Enterprises Board" the Government would surely feel obliged to duel to the death. This likewise drives a coach and horses through Budget strategy. An Opposition amendment in such terms would be countered by threats to go to the country which would be more unattractive than ever to the Liberals since their disastrous performance at the polls last week.

So Mr Pardoe's tactic must be to make loud noises on the broader battlefront (he is good at that)—but to choose a narrower, safer ground for the real conflict. He might select the issue of the top marginal rate moving to extinguish the 83 per cent band so that the scale ends at 75 per cent. This would be attractive as the yield loss would only amount to some £60m permitting Mr Healey to adopt a more relaxed and concessional posture.

Mr Pardoe's often expressed aim is to get the top tax rate down to 50 per cent. He has already described himself as in negotiation with Mr Healey and if he were to achieve this goal he would win everlasting glory. . . .

A second and hotter potato could be the new anti-avoidance clauses particularly the income tax group clauses 26, 27 and 28 respectively operative from April 6, 1976, December 2, 1976 and April 6, 1976. Such is Mr Healey's wrath against artificial avoidance schemes, particularly the commodity loss scheme, he now requires remedial law applying from a date earlier than that on which intention to legislate was first announced to Parliament. This is to stop all future schemes.

In English law there is a deep-rooted presumption against retrospection for reasons set out clearly by Lord Simonds in Hudson v Kirkness (1955). A citizen is entitled to act on the basis that the law is unambiguously what it is.

If it can retrospectively be changed he cannot be expected to comply with it and this brings the rule of law into disrepute. Retrospection will in the end have the opposite effect to what is intended: it will increase non-compliance if not through legal avoidance then through downright old-fashioned no-nonsense evasion.

The difficulty has been created by the Inland Revenue not only because very high taxes inevitably breed resistance but also because of the deplorable practice of legislating by mere parliamentary announcement to the effect that the law is going to be changed at some time in the future.

This year's Bill is absurdly various in the effective dates of different clauses. Some operate retrospectively from April 6, 1976, December 2, 1976, April 6, 1977, October 26, 1977, February 15, 1978, April 6, 1978 and April 11, 1978. Others have future operative dates: July 1, 1978, October 1, 1978, April 5, 1979. All this makes compliance much more difficult.

Given that the law is going to be changed by mere parliamentary announcement or by press release, as now regularly occurs, there is some daft logic in the Bill going back to the date of the announcement. This practice is an undoubted abuse of the powers of government and is a course of conduct which Chancellors of all political parties should forgo.

What is most alarming is the present attempt to go back to a date before that of the parliamentary announcement. For that there can be no excuse. It is a crude Act *in terrorem* to bully taxpayers into compliance. It is said that in some countries revenue officers come through your door at three in the morning with sub machine guns in their hands. This is not so very different from that.

The question is whether the Opposition will have the courage to put forward amendments which appear to ally it with tax avoiders, an unpopular cause to espouse, particularly since it has been urged that avoidance threatens the whole Exchequer, an exaggeration.

Only relatively few in the top tax brackets have the natural incentive to embark on avoidance schemes. Of course publicity makes more wonder what they are missing but yields in these brackets are still modest. If Mr Healey would concede that the pressure of these very high rates needs alleviation he would at a stroke defeat the tax avoiders

If the Opposition is willing to fight on this ground it would be advancing arguments consistent with the elimination of the 83 per cent and corresponding 98 per cent income tax rates.

Taxpayers are being pushed through a tolerance threshold, and at present rates avoidance and evasion are bound to increase.

Just as the rights of other threatened species are statutorily protected so taxpayers badly need somebody to uphold their individual rights. In the Budget debate Mr Joel Barnett, Chief Secretary at the Treasury, spoke of tax avoiders as playing with fire assuming that they, not the Government, have taken the initiative. On the contrary, it is the Government which installed a very high rate system in the first place.

It will be the function of the Opposition to draw attention to this issue in the forthcoming debate; to demonstrate that Mr Healey is driving in precisely the wrong direction. When he tightens the screw and condemns "a conspiracy to mislead," he is pushing tax avoidance under ground and assuring that it will continue to develop and prosper.

Oliver Stanley

Business Diary in Europe: Motorway café lament

...nay's onslaughts on the ...standards in British ...y restaurants and ...s have been supported ...stically by aggrieved ...s claiming that motor-...e on the Continent is ...rably better.

...trangely enough, in the ...n Parliament a French ..., Georges Carpentier, ...n echoing Ronay's stric-...most *verbatim*.

..."motorway restaurants ...urope's highways", he ..."offer goods of medi-...ality at high prices and ...conditions of hygiene ...eave a lot to be desired. ...use their semi-monopo-...position to exploit the ...g clientele."

...'s attack was promptly ...by the announcement ...overnment inquiry into ...y services, due to ...n June. Carpentier was ...y with his demands for ...om the European Com-... who said bluntly that ...were quite capable of ...other places to eat at ...did not like what the ...y restaurants offered.

...Ronay organization tells ...Diary that on the ...f research in northern ...carried out a couple of ...go for the Sealink ferry ..., together with staf-...sonal experience of the ...motorways, it still felt ...hatever the continental ...ings might be, maters ...uch worse in Britain.

...panish business com-...is thoroughly confused ...he resignation of Fran-...imenez Torres, the pre-...of INI, the industrial ...which is the country's industrial holding and one of the top ten European business enterprises.

Gimenez Torres, aged 61 and a lawyer by profession, resigned after 15 months in office and all that the business community knows about his successor, according to press reports, is that he is "an employer aged 46, educated in Deusto (a town near Bilbao) little known by the public and who has not featured on any list of candidates for public office."

INI claims that it does not know who will be the successor and so businessmen have started guessing. Various names have been produced to fit the bill and the most likely seems to be Juan Luis Burgos, financial director of Altos Uksjms, the steel mill in the Basque country.

As Adolfo Suarez, the Prime Minister, is away in the Canary Islands until the middle of next week it is most unlikely that any decision will be made until his return.

Gimenez Torres, who was head of General Franco's state run trade union organization for two years, has been at the helm of INI during its most difficult period.

INI produces everything from clay pots to jet fighters and markets everything from soft drinks to software. It employs more than 5 per cent of the industrial labour force, and accounts for more than 15 per cent of industrial exports.

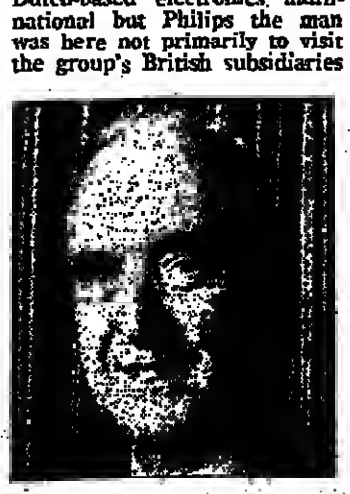
Its profits have been greatly cut and some sectors, especially energy, are in serious trouble. When the new president reveals himself he will face a complex situation.

For a political party which professes to be poor, the Spanish Communists have not done so badly in their first legal congress in the country since the civil war. They spent at least 10m pesetas (£68,965) during their four-day congress which ended yesterday and mustered the help of 250,000 militants around the country, 10,000 of them in Madrid alone. Some 750 party members helped to guard and run the congress in the five star Melia Castilla Hotel, and all gave their services free. There was closed circuit colour television for the 550 accredited journalists from all over the world, each of whom like our correspondent, was given a special blue—as opposed to the traditional red—folder with a ballpoint pen bearing the hammer and sickle.

Frederik Philips, chairman of the board of governors of the Philips Holding Company, was in London at the weekend. Philips the company is the vast Dutch-based electronics multinational but Philips the man was here not primarily to visit the group's British subsidiaries (among them Mullard and Pye) but to launch his autobiography *45 Years with Philips: an Industrialist's Life* (Blandford, £7.25).

He is the son of Anton Philips, co-founder with brother Gerard of the firm which began making lamps in Eindhoven in 1894.

With such antecedents, it would have been difficult not to rise in the firm, but Frederik Philips' path was not uniformly easy—he was imprisoned and threatened with shooting by the Germans: later he went into hiding rather than assist the German war effort.



Frederik Philips

The hard-pressed Finnish timber industry has caused another stir in the United Kingdom trade by disbanding partially one of Britain's biggest timber shippers which has left Mike Tooley, a leading figure in the business, out in the cold.

Four years ago the Finns tempted Tooley away from his job at the British company, Price and Pierce, to manage Finnish Unitimber (UK) a five-company consortium established to sell sawn goods to the United Kingdom importing trade.

Now, two of the partners, Kymi Kymmene and the state-owned Enso Gutzeit, both industrial giants in Finland, have pulled out and will in future sell sawn goods through their own United Kingdom subsidiaries. Enso and Kymmene have a joint capacity at their Finnish saw mills of 550,000 cubic metres a year and the United Kingdom is by far the best market.

Timber sales have become badly depressed since 1974 and the partners, once able to sell every bit of wood they could ship, are now in fierce competition. The remaining companies, Oulu, Kajaani and Tampella appear willing to continue the partnership.

Tooley is the second British managing director of Finnish-owned timber companies to bite the dust in five months. Business Diary reported in December, last year, the departure of Bill Bullock from the United Kingdom end of Schauman, the big timber, paper and pulp group.

Tooley, like Bullock, is not keen to discuss the actions of his Finnish bosses but he does feel that he leaves Finnish Unitimber a force in the United Kingdom market.

We recently reported Peter Noble, the chairman of the Wine Development Board, as saying that in Britain everything is permitted that is not forbidden: in Germany that everything is forbidden unless permitted and that in France everything is permitted whether forbidden or not. Endré Aldon-Edington, the secretary and chief executive of the (London) Arts Club has since written to say that at the Lausanne Hotel School he would always open his first lecture with: "Messieurs et Mesdames, in Switzerland everything that is not forbidden is compulsory."

FINANCIAL NEWS

Wood MacKenzie foresees scope for dividend growth

No one in the City liked the Budget or so it seemed from all known and recorded comment, but nobody wants to put people off buying shares; well, most people.

The *FT* Index actually rose last week to 455, making a weekly gain of 7.6.

Mr Bill Bain of Wood, Mackenzie says: "In re-assessing the outlook for financial markets in the United Kingdom we suggest that a prices under a *FT* level of 450 equities justify purchases with a downside risk of 10 per cent or under."

The underlying prop for Wood seems to be likely dividend growth. The broker sees this as continuing to be around 15 per cent a year "provided the present constraints are not tightened."

Equally to the point, Wood adds: "Even in a period of more severe, albeit non statutory, constraint of say 5 per cent under a 'Stage IV' incomes package, growth of 10 per cent in dividends would still be feasible, given the leaks such as rights issues and acquisitions." The payout trend remains "a major positive force."

Wood, Mackenzie reminds us that inflation and dear money have already brought the *FT* Index down (since 1973) from yields of 3 to 5 per cent t oS to 7 per cent, apart from a few months in 1974 and 1976. Dividends are now projected to match forecast inflation, at least.

Mr Jerry Wielechowski and Mr Hector Sants of Phillips & Drew look for an increase in spending o faround 2½ per cent this year, after a 2 per cent drop last year.

They look in particular at Associated British Foods, which appears to them to be the most attractive share in the milling and baking sector thanks to a low price eearnings ratio and the possibility of a big dividend ncrease if and when controls come off.

Apart from baking, A B Foods has been held back by two other factors.

One is the City worry about the impact of the supermarket price war on its Fine Fare chain, and the other is the stake in South Africa. But South African earnings are now only a fifth of the total.

The broker does not like the gearing in Ranks Hovis McDougall and it toys with the idea that now baking has gone, the group might attract a bidder. It has good brand names, particularly in pet foods, and a cheap market value.

Elsewhere in the sector, Brooke Bond is thought to have "some attraction". Profits in the year 1977-78 are going down along with tea prices and United Kingdom volume but some recovery should be seen this year. The price earnings ratio is down and the yield, high.

The failure by the United States insurance broker, Frank B. Hall to break into Lloyds through the acquisition of Leslie & Godwin captured a good deal of comment last week and Leslie's prospects have been monitored closely by Mr Tony Kay at James Capel.

Before the bid, Capel was going for annual profits of £5.25m against the actual outturn of £4.125m, and it was clear that something bad gone dramatically wrong.

Mr Kay's view of Leslie was confirmed when the bid was called off, that is to say the fundamental operating position is "appalling", but another bid from any number of alternative quarters is still not entirely ruled out.

His view remains that "on fundamental considerations, given the projected p/e and the continuing prospects for substantially below average profits growth for years to come, the shares are seriously overvalued. On the other hand, there is always likely to be an element of bid speculation attaching to Leslie, even after the thumb's down from Lloyd's, since this is the only short cut out of its present dilemmas". But a bid, if it comes, may be pitched at no higher than current levels and the "shares should thus be held only by the brave and/or the faithful."

The general points that Mr Kay draws from this is that control of expenses is the pivotal consideration in broking profitability in 1978-79. Further, quoting Groucho Marx, Frank B. Hall may console itself with the view that "it is in certain cases better anyway not to join a club willing to have one as a member . . . .

Finally the experts at Chart Analysis have been examining the effects of Wall Street's record volume surge last week whose impact they say "will extend far beyond journalist's copy and new entries for market statisticians".

The firm believes that a dramatic change in sentiment is under way on Wall Street and prices spurned only a few days ago now look very attractive. This should ensure that there is now a floor between 800 and 780 on the Dow Industrial Average and the path of least resistance is now upwards.

"Cash will now be seen as a liability"—only a couple of weeks ago two leading brokers were advising their clients to increase liquidity

Brokers' views

Insurance giant still defending pay deal

Sun Alliance and London Insurance is continuing to discuss with Whitehall its controversial pay settlement which led to threats of Government sanctions, Lord Aldington, the company's chairman, states in the annual report.

While streouously defending the pay settlement and at the same time welcoming the Government's attempts at bringing inflation under control, Lord Aldington says of the company's attempts to justify the pay increases: "I believe that despite all our efforts at explanation, the facts may not have been fully understood by all concerned".

The company did not seek a confrontation with the Government and, comments Lord Aldington, "I intend to continue to do my best to persuade them not only that we sincerely thought that our pay settlement was within the guidelines, but also that we were right in so thinking and that the settlement has not added to premium rates and is therefore not increasing inflationary pressure".

When the storm over the company's pay deal broke the Department of Trade threatened to force the company to cut its premium rates.

In future Sun Alliance is to have Deloitte as its sole auditor, dropping Touche Ross as joint auditor.

Meanwhile, rival composite insurance group, General Accident, is hoping to have an underwriting profit in the United States this year for the first year since 1973, subject to no substantial windstrom losses, Mr Hervey Stuart Black, the chairman, comments in his annual statement. Last year the underwriting loss was $8.5m.

European Ferries should benefit from upturn in shipping

With few economic indicators to give the equity market any leads this week, attention will be focused on the companies reporting.

However the provisional unemployment figures for April, due out tomorrow, will show whether the recent downward trend in the jobless has been continued.

Final figures from London & Scottish Marine Oil are also expected tomorrow but with the Ninian field not scheduled to come on stream until September the group will show continuing losses. Brokers Fiske & Co expect the 1977 loss to be around the £8m level but will be looking for a fourth quarter contribution in the current year.

An upturn in shipping, particularly on the cross-channel runs, should have helped European Ferries say brokers McAnally, Montgomery, who is looking for £20.25m against a previous £11m when the group reports final figures on Wednesday. European Ferries should also have benefited from its expanded harbour operations divisions which takes in Felixstowe Dock.

The following day Hoover will be unveiling first quarter results which should give the market some indication as to how much of the upturn in consumer spending has gone into household goods.

However, profits will have been knocked by the delivery drivers strike and Grieveson, Grant forecasts that the group will be lucky to mark time on last year's £3.6m. But Grieveson expects to see a recovery by the year-end and anticipates 1978 profits of around £15m compared to a previous £12.2m.

Also reporting on Thursday is house-builder George Wimpey. Because 1977 profits refer back to earlier years the group is still benefiting from contracts taken out with reasonably good margins and Fielding.

MONDAY.—Interims: Atlantic, Baltimore and Chicago Invest Tst and Moran Tea Hldgs. Finals: Wm Baird and Co, [illegible] Hldgs. Electrical and Industrial Secs, Evered and Co, [illegible] Clothes. London Atlantic Invest Tst, Melville, Dundas and Whitson, Modern Engineers of Bristol (Hldgs), Pentland Industries, Simon Eng, Tartan McCaul and Utd Capitals Invest Tst.

Board meetings this week include:

TUESDAY.—Interims: Beralt Tin and Wolfram, Border and Southern Stockholders Tst and Linread. Finals: Bodycote Intl, A. Caird and Sons, Canadian and Foreign Inv Tst, Channel Islands and Intl Invest Tst, Cullens Stores, Ellis and Goldstein, English National Inv Co, Estates Duties Inv Tst, Farnell Electronics, FC Finance, Futura Hldgs, Lindsay and Williams, London and Scottish Marine Oil, Marshall Cavendish, J. and L. Randall, Sheffield Twist Drill and Steel Co, Siemssen Hunter, Silentnight Hldgs, and Travis and Arnold.

WEDNESDAY.—Interims: Epicure Hldgs, John Haggas (3 months figs), and Spencer Gears (Hldgs). Finals: Alginate Inds, Anchor Chemical Co, Border brews (Wrexham), European Ferries, Felixstowe Dock and Railway Co, Foseco Minsep, Gerrard and National Discount Co, Gill and Duffus Grp, Hopkinsons Hldgs, Hutchison, Jessel, Toynbee, LK Industrial Invs, Manders Hldgs, Smith St Aubyn, Spear and Jackson Intl, Telephone Rentals, Thomson T-Line Caravans, and Wight Const Hldgs.

THURSDAY.—Interims: Anglo Scottish Inv Tst, Hawkins and Tipson, Hoover (1st quarter), Lockwoods Foods, McKechnie Bros and S. Simpson. Finals: Amalgamated Power Eng, Belgrave (Blackheath), De Vere Hotels, Flight Refuelling, Norman Hay, P. and W. MacLellan, Martin-Black, Minet Hldgs, Northern Eng Inds, Petrocon Grp, Shiloh Spinners, Spong and Co, Tarmac, Tootal, Vickers and George Wimpey and Co.

FRIDAY.—Interims: Construction Hldgs, Fitzroy Inv Co, James Halstead and S. Lyles. Finals: Allebone and Sons, Burrell and Co, Hammerson Property and Investment, Prince of Wales Hotels, Scottish Ontario Inv, Silhouette (London), Whatman Reeve Angel and W. Williams and Sons (Hldgs).

Alison Mitchell

This week

Mr Keith Wickenden, chairman of *European Ferries.*

Associated Biscuits overseas expansion

Hopes at Associated Biscuit Manufacturers for the current year are for some increase in consumer spending as well as for more stable raw material prices.

Mr Gordon Palmer, in his first report as chairman says that the group's prosperity in 1978 will obviously be affected by the overall economy of the United Kingdom and North America. Leaving economic factors aside, he says that the results will undoubtedly depend to a large extent on the group's management, its ability to improve productivity and meet changing conditions, and also on its success in expanding overseas.

On this last point the group's policy has been that a wider geographical spread of activities would provide an escape from the problems of high inflation at home and the rather static market in which it operates.

In support of this policy the group has been negotiating the purchase of a Chicago biscuit group, Salerno-Megowen Biscuit, which has a strong market position in the area. The group has also recently acquired two smaller confectionery businesses in Europe.

At the end of its year the board announced the purchase of an 80 per cent stake in Etablissements de Loisy et Gelet near Lyon, and in March it bought a complementary business in Germany.

This policy of expanding in North America and Europe should stand the group in good stead, but Mr Palmer says it must be accompanied by resolute efforts to achieve a better return on the group's biscuit investment. With many of the factory modernization problems left behind it, the group hopes to achieve this.

Freight report

Better, but room for improvement

Trading conditions in both the dry-cargo and tanker trades showed some definite improvement last week, although in relative terms rates still left a lot to be desired.

The long-depressed Arabian Gulf-to-Europe tanker rates solidified fractions slightly above previous levels by some half a dozen VLCCs who were booked at worldscale 18.25 (about $3.28 per ton) compared with the lower level of worldscale 18.15 ($3.25) set earlier in the week.

In addition, brokers Galbraith Wrightson reported there were noticeable shortages of tankers in the 120-150,000-ton range available for loading in the Arabian Gulf before the end of the month. In fact, one owner was demanding worldscale 40 ($7.18), or better, for this business, while in recent weeks he would have been lucky to have beaten the worldscale 30 ($5.39) level.

Although owners might be feeling somewhat more optimistic, brokers warned, such hopes in the past have been wrecked by the sudden appearance of excess oil-company tonnage.

Meanwhile, the dry-cargo trade rates overall continued to look better as technical factors, such as abnormal grain demand, and the lack of grain-loading capacity in the United States Gulf maintained their effect on the market. Although charters were not being openly reported on the market, shipbrokers said that rates were being driven upwards, particularly by the demands for grain through the house of Dreyfuss.

Addiionally, further Chinese grain demand was noted in the market, particularly for loaders in the River Plate through the Continental Grain.

Soviets, meanwhile, remained an enigma. Despite repeated reports that thay would be seeking more grain ships on a time-charter basis, brokers said that they had actually redelivered at least three ships from existing charters.

Craig Howard

Earnings at Amax hit by coal strike

Net earnings at Amax, the US mining group halved in the first quarter to $16.2m (about £8.88m). Selection Trust, the UK mining finance house, has a stake of just over eight per cent in the company.

Amax said the main cause was the coal miners' strike and claimed that salaries and other overhead costs at its Mid-Western coal operations cost $14m net.

Additionally preferred dividends were sharply higher because of the increased issue. Earnings per ordinary share slumped from 91 cents to 32 cents. Elsewhere, zinc, copper and potash earnings were lower.

Against that, there were increased earnings from molybdenum, which went some way to offset the adverse factors.

Briefly

GEO M. CALLENDBR
Turnover for 1977, £5.53m (£4.58m). Pre-tax profits, £553,000 (£479,000). Earnings a share, 4.0p (3.4p). Total dividend, 1.99p gross (1.81p).

HAWKER MARRIS
Turnover for 1977, £3.84m (£3.17m). Pre-tax profit, £266,000 (£131,000). EPS, 39.1p (23.3p). Total dividend, 9.7p gross (8.05p).

SIMON ENGINEERING
Simon Engineering's offer for Gordon Johnson-Stephens Holdings accepted for 90.09 per cent.

CLIFFORD'S DAIRIES
Plan to repay outstanding 7¼ per cent debenture stock, £1986-91, at £90 per cent.

JOSEPH HOLT
Turnover for 1977, £3.4m (£2.8m) Pre-tax profit £755,000 (£713,000). Gross dividend 3.28p (2.93p).

WADKIN
Sales for 1977, £19.9m (£15.8m). Pre-tax profit, £1.75m (£1.73m). Dividend, 8.87p gross (8.03p).

JAMES CREAN
Trading since December has continued to be satisfactory and board expects pre-tax profits in current year will be improved on last year.

FRIENDS PROVIDENT
Income from sales of ordinary Life assurances rose by 39 pc, while that from individual pension policies to self-employed persons, directors and executives increased 154 pc.

Canadian clearance for BATs drug store bid

The Canadian Government has given approval for a $65m (about £31m) takeover of Koffler Stores by Imasco, in which BAT Industries holds 49 per cent of the ordinary capital.

Koffler franchises shoppers drug mart stores, owns Embassy cleaners outlets and has a 50 per cent interest in Pharmaprix drug stores in Quebec.

In permitting Imasco's takeover of Koffler the Foreign Investment Review Agency said it considered Koffler's "protracted but unsuccessful efforts to find a Canadian buyer before opening negotiations with Imasco.

Secondly the high level of Canadian management in Imasco and the intention to increase Canadian ownership of Imasco from the present 41 per cent to 60 per cent within five years, had been taken into account.

"The Government also took into account the success enjoyed by Imasco, which operates "Top Drug" stores in Ontario, in pharmaceutical retailing in Canada; its intention to provide substantial funds to open additional drug stores and dry cleaning outlets creating in excess of 2,000 new jobs; its intention to provide strong financial support for pharmaceutical research and development in Canada; and that the very successful Koffler management team will continue to manage the Shoppers Drug Mart chain and will also take over responsibility for management of Top Drug Stores" the Review Association said.

Imasco president Paul Pare said in Toronto that the company now would proceed to complete its offer. He said Imasco plans to integrate its existing Top Drug Mart operations into Koffler's Shoppers Drug Mart chain.

Imasco is offering $55 cash and a series of "A" redeemable convertible 5 per cent preferred shares of $35 par value for any combination of 10 class "A" or "B" Koffler shares.

جلة أمينة الأصل

[FI]NANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

[M]arket reaction oddly calm about [U]S announcement to sell gold

[Hist]ory, the sage tells us [repeat]s itself the first time as [traged]y and the second time as [farce]. But analysts comparing [the] proposed United States [gold] sales with a similar move [by the] International Monetary [Fund two] years ago are won[dering] into which category the [US sa]les fall. Initial reaction [has b]een oddly calm, perhaps [becaus]e of a deliberate effort [to av]oid the dismay which [greeted] the early IMF auctions. [But] what was then [thought] to be a tragedy [has] turned into a realiza[tion th]at the markets could [live] with monthly offi[cial g]old sales. Is the United [States] now courting farce, and [if so,] what kind?

[It] seems to be generally [accepte]d in the gold and gold [share] markets that the United [States] cannot realistically [hope] completely to de-mone[tize] gold in the sense of [remov]ing it utterly as a med[ium of] exchange and store of [value]. But selling a portion of [the U]nited States stocks will [go so]me way to reducing the [import]ance of gold in the [internat]ional monetary system, [and, a]llied with other [measur]es, restore some confi[dence] in the dollar.

[Neith]er of these aims—the [short-t]erm one of stabilizing [the do]llar and the longer-term [one o]f pushing gold into the [monet]ary background—is seen [in the] markets as presenting a [threat] to gold prices, whether [expres]sed in dollars or other [curren]cies such as Swiss francs, or to mining shares that is more than temporary. The argument here is that gold, for whatever use, is in fundamentally short supply. Even if it ceased to be the precious metal, it would still be precious.

A less sanguine view is taken, however, of market movements during the next few months. An abrupt fall in the prices of mining shares, particularly South Africans, last Thursday was followed by a partial recovery the day after. Gold's fluctuations were similar. Busy trading in Consolidated Gold Fields options in the new traded options market suggests a basic uncertainty about the short-term prospects of the 45 per cent gold content in the shares. A general volatility is expected to dominate the sector for some time.

At first sight the volume of gold the United States plans to sell does not appear enough to upset the market. But the gold market is small, and disposing of two million ounces, even if it is just 3 per cent of the net addition to the western world's stock in 1977, could be sufficient to do the damage. In addition, the IMF is to review next month its own sales, which so far have amounted to half the intended 25 million ounces. Thus June is likely to see a minimum of 825,000 ounces coming on to the market within a couple of weeks. That would be no less than 17 per cent of last year's average monthly increase in western gold stocks.

There is, of course, the probability that when the market absorbs the implications of so much gold being sold prices will be discounted in advance. The period of greatest volatility is therefore most likely to be between now and June, rather than in the sales' aftermath when, as with the IMF sales, the market will fairly quickly find a definable trading range.

But that is not the end of the problem for the mines. The temporary depressant effect of so big a new seller is bound to enlarge the question mark already hanging over the marginal gold producers. Mines like Durban Roodepoort Deep and East Rand Proprietary should now be considered deeply speculative.

Moreover, the bigger and profitable mines will not be without their difficulties either. The new policy of the South African Government to pay the mines the free market price for their gold as soon as they deliver it to the Central Bank could add an extra two weeks' revenue in the current quarter, which on the present gold price equals about $20 on the quarterly average price.

Michael Prest

Mining

Ash & Lacy turns about after first big drop since 1963

The first big setback since moving in Smethwick in 1963 was suffered last year by Ash & Lacy, the maker of perforated and expanded metal, steel cladding sheets, tank and plastic products, and a stockholder of steel and non ferrous sheet, and harware distributor.

Happily, this year should see Ash growing again. Mr Fane Vernon, chairman, reports in his statement with the accounts for the year to March 31, last: "The trading results for the first quarter of 1978 show a substantial improvement over the previous year and there is also a considerable reduction in interest costs."

The contrast with 1977 is sharp. Then pre-tax profits fell from £1.79m to £1.4m, pulled down by recession in steel stockholding and processing, and to a lesser extent in hardware distribution.

Surplus capacity, heavy stocks and poor demand narrowed margins, and interest charges dropped only slightly. Hence the sharp fall in profits.

Pergamon up a third to £3.7m pre-tax

In 1977, pre-tax profits of Mr Robert Maxwell's Pergamon Press rose by 37.3 per cent to £3.7m, compared with the January estimate which expected them to "exceed £3.4m". Turnover of this Oxford-based group jumped by 62.8 per cent to £20.72m. As expected, the board is recommending the resumption of dividends, which have been suspended since 1969, with a payment of 15.15p gross. Last year's figures were achieved in spite of a rise in the value of sterling compared with the dollar, which hit profits by over £1m. However, the board is confident that trading for 1978 will continue to be "satisfactory".

Recovery starts at Stag Furniture

After last year's fall in profit, the outlook seems to be brighter for Nottingham-based Stag Furniture. This year started well and the first-quarter's preliminary results indicate that the group is meeting its targets in terms of both turnover and profits. Trading conditions have improved from the depressed levels of last year and, although trade is not yet buoyant, the board expects a further rise in demand as the year develops. The Stag group is well equipped and ready to take adoantage of the expected upturn, the chairman, Mr P. V. Radford, reports in his annual statement. The notes to the accounts refer to a £20,000 *ex gratia* payment to a former director.

Senior Engineering's chairman hopeful

Watford-based Senior Engineering, which has made good progress over the past few years, appears to be set to battle on whatever the circumstances. Professor R. Smith, the chairman, declares in his latest report that the group is well equipped to take advantage of any improvement in trading conditions and that it will strive to extract "the maximum benefit out of the present depressed situation". The group balance sheet shows that net current assets at end-1977 reached £13.01m, compared with £11.02m a year earlier. During the year, there was a net increase of £251,000 in liquid funds, against a decrease of £711,000 in 1976.

Further rise looked for by Ibstock

Full time result for 1978 should show a useful advance over 1977, says Mr Paul Hyde-Thomson, chairman of Ibstock Johnsen, in the annual report. In the United Kingdom some upturn in activity was materializing but the Government clearly intended this should be only modest.

While Ibstock has no plans for any large increase in production this year, it expects again to raise despaches and to decrease its relatively high levels of stocks. In the nited Kingdom last year, national facing-brick deliveries fell by 11 per cent and total brick deliveries by 12.3 per cent; in contrast, Ibstock's United Kingdom deliveries rose 11 per cent.

[Wee]kly list of fixed interest stocks

	Latest price	Prev week		Latest price	Prev week
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

5 CONVERTIBLES

[Wall] Street

[Wall] Street and Canadian [pri]ces given in the table [are] Friday's close. Later [this] is caused by the change to British Summer Time. This will continue until Eastern Daylight Time begins in the United States.

Canadian Prices

MARKET REPORTS

Ship market holds back Willis Faber

Willis Faber, the insurance broker and underwriting agent which obtained a Stock Exchange listing in 1976, does not expect the profits growth of the last few years to be repeated in the current year, Mr Ronald Taylor, the chairman comments in the annual report.

Sluggish world trade has had a particular impact on marine insurance, upon which the company has a "significant" dependence. Willis Faber is also having to cope with substantial extra expenses of the new premises and the installation of new systems. Last year pre-tax profits rose by 17 per cent to £8.93m.

Last year four directors substantially reduced their beneficial shareholdings in the company. Mr D. V. Palmer, the chief executive, cut his holding by 19 per cent to 883,000 shares.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	7½%
Barclays Bank	7½%
B.C.C.I. Bank	7½%
Consolidated Crdts	6½%
First London Secs	7½%
C. Hoare & Co.	*7½%
Lloyds Bank	7½%
London Mercantile	7½%
Midland Bank	7½%
Nat Westminster	7½%
Rossminster Acc's	7½%
TSB	7½%
Williams and Glyn's	7½%

* 7 day deposits on sums of £10,000 and under 4½%, up to £25,000 4¾%, over £25,000 5¼%.

Beatrice Foods offering sells out quickly despite lower yield

A $100m offering of five-year Beatrice Foods Overseas Finance NV notes at par bearing 7.75 per cent annually sold out quickly this week even though the yield was below comparable yields for five-year United States Treasury Paper, *writes AP-Dow Jones.*

In what was considered to be a feat for the syndicate manager, Kidder Peabody International, the offering was closed four days early.

Syndicate sources said that demand was particularly heavy in Switzerland where investors are more concerned about quality than the yield.

Guaranteed by the Beatrice Foods Company, whose United States debt is "AAA"-rated, the issue was entirely underwritten by a six-member syndicate. About 30 per cent of it was re-offered through a selling group at a 1.25 per cent concession.

"Demand from the selling group was getting so large that we would not have been able to ensure that the managers got the bonds reserved for them. So we closed the offering ahead of time", a spokesman fur Kidder Peabody said.

However, an even more audacious attempt to place paper at below market levels was initiated by Deutsche Bank with a private placement of BASF Overseas NV.

Guaranteed by BASF AG, the German chemical company, the notes have been priced at 99.25 bearing 7.5 per cent to yield 7.72 per cent at maturity. Though Eurodollar debt offerings by German companies are a rarity, four-year prime bank certificates of deposit were available on Friday at a yield of 8.25 per cent to the investor.

Euromarkets

To be sure, the subscription price does not really indicate the yield at which large investors can obtain the bonds since it is common practice for syndicate members to pass on all or part of their selling group commission to the investor in what amounts to hidden fee cutting. Thus, if the 1.125 per cent selling group commission for the BASF offered were subtracted from the subscription price of 99.25, the actual price to the large investor would come to 98.125 for a yield of 8.07 per cent.

Similarly, dealers said that Beatrice Food's notes could be obtained at a 1 point discount for a yield of 8.0 per cent.

Also scheduled this week is a $75m, 15-year bond issue bearing 9.0 per cent of Caisse Nationale des Telecommunications through a syndicate managed by Deutsche Bank and Union Bank of Switzerland (Securities). Guaranteed by the French government, the bonds provide a purchase fund which will retire a certain amount in each of the first 10 years if the market price is below par. If fully utilized, the purchase fund will reduce the average life of the amount outstanding to 10.22 years.

Although the managers have not given any pricing indications, some market participants said that a discount is likely in view of the current investor preference for short-dated paper.

In the secondary market this week, Eurodollar bond prices tended to move higher with the continuing upsurge of the dollar in the foreign exchange market even though short-term Eurodollar interest rates were pushed up a bit.

However, some dealers were sounding a note of caution because of the possibility that the volume of new offerings could pick up substantially. One dealer argued that a lot of potential issues have been held back while the dollar was weak. These may now be pushed into the market, he said.

Another dealer contended that forecasts of higher dollar interest rates provide a convincing reason for borrowers to get their issues into the market now rather than later.

Syndicate sources said that Norway would shortly tap the market with a $250m five-year note issue

More share prices

The following will be added to the London and Regional Share Price List tomorrow and will be published daily in Business News:

Commercial & Industrial
Cornercroft

Eurobond prices (yields and premiums)

	Offer Price	Redptn Yld
US STRAIGHTS ($)		
Australia 7¾ 1984	96¼	8.27
Australia 8¼ 1992	94¾	8.90
Aust Mining 9¼ 1993	98¾	9.41
Avco 9¼ 1983	100¼	9.13
Avco 9¼ 1985	99¾	9.30
Barclays 8½ 1992	97⅞	8.76
Bowater 9¼ 1992	98½	9.44
British Gas 9 1981	102¾	7.87
Citicorp 6¾ 1980	97¼	7.88
Citicorp 7 1981	97½	7.85
ECA 8¾ 1997	96½	9.14
DSM 8¼ 1987	98	8.57
EIB 8½ 1988	97¾	8.84
EIB 8¾ 1993	96¾	9.15
Eurofima 8½ 1988	97⅞	8.89
Fisons 8¾ 1992	97¾	9.43
ICI 8¼ 1987	98¼	8.51
INCO 8¼ 1984	97	8.67
INCO 9 1992	98¼	9.23
ITEL 9¾ 1988	99¾	9.85
IU O'Seas 8¾ 1987	96½	9.30
Light-Services 9 1989	97¾	9.63
MacMillan Bl'del 9 1992	97	9.39
Midland Int 8¾ 1992	99¾	8.84
NCB 8 1987	96	8.65
Nat West 9 1986	102	8.66
NZ Forest Prod 9 1986	100¼	8.91
Norsk Hydro 7¾ 1982	98¼	8.54
Occidental 8¾ 1983	99⅛	8.99
Occidental 8¾ 1987	98¾	8.95
Offshore Mining 8¼ 1985	99½	8.34
Rank Hovis 9 1993	94¾	9.75
R. J. Reynolds 7½ 1982	98½	7.89
Shell 8¼ 1990	97½	8.59
SNCF 8¼ 1984	99¾	8.50
Sparbankernas 8¾ 1988	98½	8.98
Sweden 7¾ 1982	99¼	8.00
Sweden 8¼ 1987	97	8.73
Tauernautobahn 8¼ 1987	98¾	8.45
Walter Kidde 8½ 1985	98½	8.78
FLOATING RATE NOTES		
Andelsbanken 7 11/16 1984	98¾	8.03
CCF 7¾ 1985	99¾	7.87
IBJ 7 21/16 1982	99¾	7.76
LTCB 7 15/16 1982	100⅛	7.90
OKB 7¾ 1987	100½	7.65
Williams & Glyns 8 1/16 1984	100¾	7.98
CANADIAN DOLLARS		
Avco 9¾ 1982	97½	10.25
BM-RT 8¾ 1982	96⅛	9.68
Ford 8¾ 1984	95¾	9.42
British Columbia MFA 9 1997	95⅞	9.47
Rank 9¾ 1983	98¼	10.03
Waller Heller 9½ 1984	98½	9.85
DEUTSCHE MARKS		
CFP 6½ 1984	104	5.72
ICI 6¾ 1987	105¼	5.99
New Zealand 6¼ 1984	106½	4.99
Phryn 6¼ 1989	104	5.76
Quebec Hydro 6½ 1987	103	6.07

US $ CONVERTIBLES	Offer Price	Conv Prem
American Express 4¼ 1987	87½	49.47
Beatrice Foods 4½ 1992	100	15.13
Beatrice Foods 6¼ 1991	114	5.36
Beecham 6¾ 1992	96	1.78
Borden 6¾ 1991	107⅛	8.44
Carnation 4 1988	80	54.07
Chevron 5 1988	80	-1.64
Eastman Kodak 4½ 1988	82½	64.15
Fairchild Camera 5¼ 1991	97	35.28
Ford 5 1988	91⅛	2.85
Ford 6 1986	102	4.81
General Electric 4¼ 1987	85¾	36.72
Gillette 4¾ 1987	79	33.73
Gould 6 1987	115	1.28
Gulf & Western 5 1988	88	24.54
Honeywell 6 1986	91	119.50
ICI 6¾ 1987	88½	15.17
INA 6 1997	98⅛	17.96
Inchcape 6¾ 1992	111⅛	0.26
ITT 4¼ 1987	85	61.99
J. Ray McDermott 4¾ 1987	154	-0.93
Mitsui Real Estate 6 1992	145	4.78
J. P. Morgan 4¼ 1987	99⅛	15.46
Nabisco 5¼ 1988	104	4.50
J. C. Penney 4½ 1987	79½	71.25
Revlon 4¾ 1987	112	8.25
Reynolds Metals 5 1988	88	28.63
Sperry Rand 4¼ 1988	93½	25.07
Squibb 4¼ 1987	80¾	87.29
Sumitomo Elec 6 1992	149	7.72
Texaco 4½ 1988	83	37.93
T.Y. Co 6 1988	85	214.12
Union Bank of Switzerland 4½ 1987	140	-7.11
Warner Lambert 4½ 1987	85¾	44.63
Xerox Corp 5 1988	81½	152.61

Source: Kidder Peabody Securities Limited.

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The Over-the-Counter Market

Capitalisation £000's	Company	Price last Friday	Change on week	Gross Div (p)	Yld %	P/E
2,400	Airsprung Ord	48	+1	4.2	8.8	8.9
387	Airsprung 18½% CULS	155	—	18.5	11.8	—
1,000	Armitage & Rhodes	40	+2	3.3	8.2	17.0
4,888	Bardon Hill	160	+5	12.0	7.5	11.0
2,953	Deborah Ord	110	−2	5.1	4.6	8.8
450	Deborah 17½% CULS	225	—	17.5	7.7	—
19,647	Frederick Parker	136	+1	12.4	9.1	5.3
2,674	George Blair	145	−2	15.0	10.3	5.8
1,150	Jackson Group	46	—	5.0	10.8	5.4
13,663	James Burrough	99	−1	6.0	6.0	9.1
3,162	Robert Jenkins	310	−5	26.7	8.6	5.2
3,419	Twinlock Ord	16	−1	—	—	—
2,156	Twinlock 12% ULS	79	−1	12.0	15.1	—
3,264	Unilock Holdings	75	—	7.0	9.3	9.3
6,442	Walter Alexander	102	—	6.4	6.2	7.5

Unit Trust Prices—change on the week

FT Index change on week 455.0+7.6

Authorized Unit Trusts

Insurance Bonds and Funds

Offshore and International

[illegible]

Stock Exchange Prices

Capitalization and week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, April 17. Dealings End, April 28. § Contango Day, May 2. Settlement Day, May 10

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

TEA

Capitalization £	Company	Price last Friday	Ch'ge on week	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
2,726,000	Assam Frontier	290	-2	24.0	8.5	..
4,796,000	Assam Inv	105	-1	10.5	10.1	..
5,070,000	Camellia Inv	200	..	3.0	1.5	..
753,000	Deundi	145	h ..	4.9	3.4	..
8,738,000	McLeod Russel	277	+24	15.2	7.0	..
1,364,000	Moran	350	..	5.4	1.4	..
840,000	Surmah Valley	105	+3	10.0	9.5	..
6,603,000	Warren Plant	202	+2	20.0b	9.9	..

MISCELLANEOUS

Capitalization £	Company	Price last Friday	Ch'ge on week	Gross div pence	Yld %	P/E
38.5m	Algoma Cen Rly	£11¾	+1	28.0	2.2	10.0
2,933,000	Calcutta Elec	70	+1	13.0	18.6	..
——	E Surr Wtr 4.9%	£51½	..	490	9.5	..
1,300,000	Essex Wtr 3.5%	35	..	350	14.0	..
33.6m	Gt Nthn Tele	£60	-1	195	3.2	13.4
127.4m	Imp Cont Gas	340	+10	14.2	4.2	13.0
——	Mid Kent Wtr	£25	..	300	12.2	..
514,000	Milford Docks	66	-2	4.1	6.2	7.2
2,801,000	Nigerian Elec	256	-3	50.0	0.0	..
——	Sunderlnd Wtr	£38	..	538	14.3	..

a Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. ... No significant data.

THE TIMES SHARE INDICES

The Times Share Indices for 22.04.78 (base date June 2, 1964 original base date June 2, 1959).—

	Index No. Latest	Div. Yield %	Earnings Yield %	Chnge over week
The Times Industrial Share Index	195.82	9.77	12.89	+4.44
Largest Coys.	198.79	6.52	12.10	+4.51
Smaller Coys.	185.41	7.56	14.60	+4.21
Capital Goods	222.45	7.18	15.21	+4.09
Consumer Goods	212.31	6.83	12.28	+3.72
Store Shares	170.02	6.36	8.13	+3.22
Largest financial shares	375.22	0.06	—	+5.48
Largest financial and industrial shares	201.92	0.43	—	+4.69
Commodity shares	234.46	8.60	13.49	+6.65
Gold Mining shares	281.06	0.06	17.92	-15.77
Industrial debenture stocks	93.62	8.38*	—	+0.28
Industrial preference stocks	55.80	11.88*	—	-5.10
3½% War Loan	34½	10.53*	—	+½

A record of The Times Industrial Share Indices is given below:—

	High		Low	
All-time	222.98	(14.09.77)	60.10	(12.12.74)
1978	208.15	(06.01.78)	184.85	(02.03.78)
1977	222.98	(14.09.77)	131.29	(12.01.77)
1976	171.85	(05.05.76)	113.53	(27.10.76)
1975	156.92	(19.11.75)	61.42	(05.01.75)
1974	136.16	(28.02.74)	60.10	(12.12.74)
1973	189.33	(12.01.73)	120.85	(14.12.73)

* Flat interest yield.

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Managing Director of luxury car dealers requires a super Personal Assistant Secretary. Only slow shorthand is required for this interesting position with excellent prospects for the right applicant willing to take on responsibility. Age 25 plus. Salary negotiable, up to £4,000.
Telephone 01-493 7705

LA CREME DE LA CREME

A Wealth of Jobs all at £4,000

SW1, £4,000
Admin Manager of prestige Consultants needs a bright, efficient Secretary to help him plan his days. Good prospects.

W1, £4,000
Busy Accountancy practice needs a cheerful, adaptable shorthand secretary who likes to use her own initiative working for two Partners. Young office plus good benefits.

SW1, £4,000
As PA to Senior Partner of Chartered Surveyors you will have plenty of client contact as well as using your shorthand and audio skills to ensure the smooth running of his office.

W1, £4000
Schedule Typist with several years' experience at Chartered Accountants needed urgently for this lively, go-ahead firm.

Victoria at St James's
Recruitment Consultants
Strutton Ground, SW1
01-799 4161
1 min St James's Park Tube

THE COMMITTEE OF LONDON CLEARING BANKERS

(Close to Bank underground) Require 2 shorthand Secretaries. Good progressive salaries, luncheon vouchers, non-contributory pension scheme, 4 weeks leave.

Further details from:
Mrs M. Norman
01-623 5511

SECRETARIAL

£6,048 Tax Free
LIBYA

International Oil Co. require Secretary, 35 plus with shorthand and typing for one year contract. Driving essential. Free accommodation provided.

Marlene Lerner Personnel
19 Wigmore Street, W.1.
Tel. 637 3822

CENTACOM
MUNICH

Export Sales Manager of an international company seeks a first class Audio Secretary with knowledge of shorthand. German useful. Useful location. Age 23+. Salary DM2,000+ bonus. For full information call Pat Hillier on 836 2675.

CENTACOM STAFF AGY.

PUBLISHING COMPANY WC1

require young Secretary to become very involved in the publishing field. c £3,000.

Ring Audrey Atkinson
Mantec Personnel Services
353 1476 or 353 1201, 24 hours

SECRETARY/P.A./RECEPTIONIST

RUN OUR OFFICE NEAR KENSINGTON

£3,500 + Neg. The titles unimportant, your ability to fit into a small but fast moving team in the computer service business is essential. Duties include secretarial function to Company Directors, typing, reception, telephones, company administration, etc. We may even want you to travel anywhere at short notice. Just right for the person who wants involvement, good salary and a real chance to progress.

Ring 01-493 5389 to reppt.

PUBLICITY: PROMOTIONS: PERSONNEL
£3,750

Become the nerve centre of this management consultancy who reward your secretarial talents as you reap the benefits of their international connections: including development of a private hospital! Assist these two charming directors as you arrange their travel and diaries. Compose your own correspondence and liaise with clients on the telephone and face to face. Enjoy this stimulating environment by 'phoning Alison on 828 8065.

CHURCHILL PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS
Abford House, 15 Wilton Rd, SW1

A LEADING LIGHT
£4,500

Illuminate your way to the side of this brilliant easy going boss—he's a delight! Your outwardgoing personality and proven top-level secretarial expertise will enhance your relationship. Oversee the small typing pool, recruit temp and permanent future colleagues and satisfy your admin leanings. Don't delay. Strike while the iron is hot. Ring Ursula on 828 8065.

CHURCHILL PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS
Abford House
15 Wilton Road, S.W.1

LEGAL BEAGLE
£4,000

Handle and assist this man in his fast-moving day as he deals with all this international company's policies. This very involving position will make you a real Sec/PA handling admin, clerical contact and negotiations. Get into a career of your choice by ringing Mandi on 828 8055.

CHURCHILL PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS
Abford House, 15 Wilton Rd., SW1.

INTERVIEWER TRAINEE, £3,500+.—Young go-ahead Secretarial Banking Consultancy in the West End need an extra pair of hands to do secretarial/reception/telephone/interviewing. Also experienced interviewer to help expand permanent section. £4,000 + commission. Tel.: 734 6647.

£4,000.—Senior Secretary, 25+, with shorthand and a little audio to M.D. of City Finance Company.—Secretaries Plus. 283 9953.

SENIOR SECRETARY required for laboratories at Histopathology to work as Personal Secretary to Head of Department. Experienced shorthand and/or audio typist. Salary on Whitley Council Higher Clerical Scale (at present £2,889-£3,524 including London Weighting and Supplements, but under review). Apply in writing, giving details of previous experience with two referees, to: Prof. H. A. Sissons, Institute of Orthopaedics, Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, 234 Great Portland Street, W1N 6AD.

SECRETARIAL

RARE OPPORTUNITY!

For a good Shorthand Secretary, aged 20/21, for the Asst. Vice President of City Bank. Very friendly young man who seeks personable, mature-type Sec. Work in lovely offices, with excellent benefits include 3% house loan, personal and season ticket loans, 40p LVs plus bonus. Salary £3,400 + + neg. Very much a P.A. position.
PHONE MALCOLM OR MICHAEL ON
623 2281
for further details of this or any of our other well paid vacancies.

A S A SECRETARIES
(Employment Agency)

PUBLISHING
(Rusty Shorthand)
£3,500

Surrounded by luxury, you will be the right hand of these two lovely Executives, helping to arrange exhibitions and liaising with booksellers.

JUNIOR INTERVIEWER
£3,000 + BONUS

Use your secretarial skills to gain a footing in this personnel department, where you will be fully trained.
DON'T DELAY CALL JILL
439 9241
BUREAU CLASSICAE

Secretary

We are looking for a person who has good secretarial skills, who is flexible, likes responsibility and who would enjoy working (for one person) in a good working environment in this non-profit, private family planning clinic. Salary £3,200. Please write or phone

Claire Brown
Marie Stopes Clinic
108, Whitfield St., London W1
388 0662

PERSONAL SECRETARY

Senior Partner of small but busy firm of Solicitors requires Personal Secretary, age immaterial, but must be experienced, a fast shorthand typist, a hard worker and with a pleasing personality. Hours 9.30-6. Salary negotiable c £3,750 plus overtime.

PLEASE RING MR ROSE
487 5001

PUBLIC RELATIONS, W1

Exciting position for Secretary/P.A. to work for charming Public Relations Manager. Age immaterial. £3,700 negotiable.

Ring Audrey Atkinson
Mantec Personnel Services
353 1476 or 353 1201, 24 hours

PUBLISHING SECRETARY

Small, expanding International Publishing Company seeks young, enthusiastic Secretary wanting involvement. College leaver considered. Salary negotiable around £2,500.

Call 01-734 5186

Diabetic Unit of Department of Medicine
requires
SECRETARY

to be concerned with clinical and research work. Applicant needs to be an energetic organiser with good typing speeds and an interest in meeting people, arranging meetings and editorial work. Salary according to experience, if any. Please write giving age, full details and telephone no. to Miss D. Lincoln, West Wing, Block 9, St Thomas's Hospital Medical School, London, SE1 7EH.

University of London
Institute of Neurology
AUDIO SECRETARY/PA

required for Institute Administrator. Own office overlooking square, golf ball typewriter. Interest-free travel loan, superannuation. A busy and responsible job requiring tact and initiative. Salary on University scale (under review) £3,200-£3,800. Age immaterial. Telephone: 01-837 3611, ext. 170 for interview. Written applications with c.v. to Captain D. W. Sherwood, RN, Institute of Neurology, Queen Square, London, W.C.1.

SOCIAL SUCCESS AT £3,700

In this flexible enjoyment-orientated company you will also enjoy lots of personal contact and learn all about the most fascinating properties. With a desire to succeed in this field, your independent mind, creative thoughts and PA/audio talents will be immediately recognised. Put a dash into your social life too by phoning Shona on 828 8055.

CHURCHILL PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS
Abford House
15 Wilton Road, S.W.1

PERKS AT £4,000

You'll be a winner as you achieve the recognition you deserve as full PA back-up to the Director of this enormous company dealing with Europe and New York. At this executive suite level—with a wide spectrum of admin you'll be meeting people, organizing conferences, your own day will fly by! Perks galore, restaurant and sports club, etc. So get where the action is & phone Shona on 828 8055.

CHURCHILL PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS
Abford House, 15 Wilton Rd., SW1

DIRECTOR of large advertising agency who is very much a self-motivated "ideas" man, needs an energetic well-organised and capable secretary (24+) with fast speeds and an ability to relate to creative people and clients. Salary around £3,500. Monico Grove Recruitment Consultants, 839 2186.

£4,000 NEG.—Banking Manager, E.C.2, requires Secretary, 23-30. Four weeks' hols., mortgage subsidy, 50p L.V.s, bonus, etc.—Secretaries Plus. 283 9953.

PUBLIC RELATIONS. Small, interesting company SW1 require young secretary. Varied work. Might suit college leaver. 834 0179.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE! — Contract administrator manager of medium-sized org. needs P.A./Sec., 23-28. Will need average shorthand, good typing and most importantly the ability to extend into responsibilities re clients and general organization. Around £4,200 p.a., free lunch.—Joyce Guiness Staff Bureau. 589 8807/0010.

DRAKE PERSONNEL

A GRANDE PRIX COMMENTATOR

He's also a Director of a Tip Top Ad. Agency and is after a P.A. to deal with both company and personal matters, keep track of the status of Big Name clients and so much more besides. This top job offers £3,500 neg., excellent prospects, cheap cigarettes and drink, LV's and a tremendous atmosphere if you have secretarial skills.

Call Julie Fryer today on 222 0671.

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

BANQUETS, EXHIBITIONS, CONFERENCES
TO £3,700

International Hotel caters for anything from a dinner dance to a boxing match, hi-fi exhibition or cabaret. You can be in on it all—assisting the Administrator from start to roaringly successful finish if you have secretarial experience and a flexible attitude.

Call Eileen Anderson right away on 222 0671

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

HELP PRODUCE THE ADS
£3,500 NEG.

One of London's leading Agencies offers all round training to Print Buying and Ad. Production if you're keen to get out of a typical secretarial job, go out and visit suppliers, liaise with account execs. and follow through to deadline as Progress Chaser. Excellent prospects and benefits here.

Julie Fryer on 222 0671 will tell you more today.

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

V.I.P. PUBLICITY
£3,750

It's a small company with an impressive International Clientele. Their cosmopolitan M.D. needs a P.A. with enough flair and style to meet Top People and take full charge of office admin. Accurate skills needed, but personality and organising ability counts more. A Queen Anne house overlooking the park awaits you so call:

Julie Fryer now on 222 0671

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

PROJECT P.A.
TO £4,000

Involvement on this highly confidential project will bring international contact with architects, lawyers and land buyers and frequent top level meetings in a major British Company. They provide security, social club, staff shop and subsidised restaurant. You provide the secretarial know how. Get in touch with Denise Coussins on 222 0671 today.

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

OPEN A NEW BRANCH
(Non Secretarial)

After being trained on all procedures by a well known Building Society, you'll help open their brand new South Kensington branch. You'll earn £3,500 + £7 for alternate Sats from 9-12, 4 weeks' hols, 4% mortgage and regular reviews. If you have accurate typing you could qualify. Find out by calling

Jacqueline McGrath on 628 2691

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

ADMINISTRATOR/ No Shorthand
NO AUDIO—£3,500 NEG.

Leading Computer Consultants need your organising talents to keep track of each client project and to liaise with undergrads applying for jobs. A varied, responsible position—you'll even have your own typist to handle the mundane. Call Hilary Brook today on 628 2691

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

PRESIDENTIAL SUITE
£4,000 NEG.

You'll be called upon to interview clients—take them to lunch and really be the "Front" for the head of a World Wide Group in incredibly luxurious surroundings. Top job offers 4 weeks hols., free lunch, assisted mortgage, STL. Yours if you have secretarial experience and call Jacqueline McGrath now on 628 2691

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

RESEARCH WITHOUT SHORTHAND
£3,500 NEG.

Assisting the Head of Research in prestige Stock Brokerage could mean promotion to Client Advisor in time. If you have used a word processing machine and have audio experience, put U towards an exciting new career. For more information call

Margaret Lankester on 628 2691 today

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

P.A. TO COMPUTER M.D.
£3,800 NEG.

Plus 5% minimum Annual Bonus, free BUPA, twice yearly reviews and flexitime. Stylish, thriving young company offer great prospects in someone with rusty shorthand and typing who can deal with clients in depth, handle a little bookkeeping and learn to operate a mini computer.

Call Hilary Brook right away on 628 2691

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

£3,500 RISING TO £4,000 IN 3 MONTHS...

and very flexible hours offered by charming Man at Country Property to a P.A.—with rusty shorthand—who can run his office—traditional decor in a beautiful old house—set up systems, research into land deals—really get involved. Hear more by calling.

Hilary Brook on 628 2691

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

CREATIVE THINKER
TO £3,600

You'll be spending a lot of your time writing captions for Fashion Photographs, occasionally assisting at Fashion Shows, keeping Press cuttings current, typing stencils for Press Releases in a Top British Company. Imagination, plus accurate skills?

Call Annabel Davies now on 734 0911

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

HOUSING TRUST

You can become a Housing Negotiator or a Trainee Housing Officer with this trendy young crowd whose projects include the improvement of slum areas. Start as audio assistant to a live-wire young man who'll delegate more and more as you learn. Salary starts at £3,300 rising to £3,600 in June, 4 weeks' hols., a good social life and loans O.K. too.

Call Carol Lee right away on 734 0911

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

GERMAN SPEAKING P.A.

No Shorthand—to £4,000. You'll be called upon by companies in Germany for information and advice, and there's quite a bit of translation too plus all round office admin. in a stimulating young Mayfair Group. More details from:

Call Buckley on 734 0911

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

SOPHISTICATE
TO £4,000

Lords and Ladies buy their luxury cars from this small stunning Mayfair Showroom. The distinguished M.D. is after a polished P.A./Administrator who can run the business when he's away and eventually move into an executive role. Talk to

Call Buckley on 734 0911 today

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
£3,800

Executive Status in this American Company means lots of socialising with clients, with the accent on Administration moving away from the secretarial side. Stunning offices and a 9.30 start in SW7. For more information call

Sandra Gibbons on 221 5072.

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

THE EDITORIAL SIDE
£3,600

Helping to compile and produce a monthly journal with world wide distribution will also mean organising and attending meetings around the country—with prospects to move away from secretarial functions onto the editorial staff. 9.45 start off Oxford Circus, 4 weeks' hols., 35p LV's. Don't miss out.

Call Carol Lee on 734 0911

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

ADMINISTRATOR'S P.A.
to £4,000

Man at the Top of well known Medical Research foundation needs you to assist on the administration of research grants. More an associate than a secretary—conduct your own correspondence, attend meetings and take over when he's away. Free lunches, STL. Knowledge of medical terms preferred plus good accurate skills.

Call Vicky Rew on 734 0911.

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

CONFERENCE ORGANISER +

To assist with the Admin. and to attend Effective Leadership Courses run by important management advisory body. Unique prospects for quick promotion, generous clothing, hair dressing and drycleaning allowances offered if you're a natural with people and have secretarial skills.

Call Vicky Rew for more exciting details on 734 0911.

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

ADVERTISING PROMOTIONS
to £3,600

You'll organise advertising conferences, compile and type brochures and get involved in screening applicants of executive calibre for a small, smashing Ad. Agency near Oxford Circus. If you have good accurate typing call

Maggie Maxwell today on 734 0911

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

EXECUTIVE STATUS

Won't take long in a leading British Company. Start as Agreements Co-ordinator making recommendations to management on overseas franchise agreements. If you have been a secretary with strong administration bias—you can do it and earn £3,700 neg., hairdressing allowance, travel and car purchase discounts.

Call Peta Alexandrou on 734 0911 now.

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS

A PARTY AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE

Just part of the job in this exciting, committed young group. They'll train a College Leaver in the scheme's Overseas Promotions dept., give you £119 travel allowance, 40p LV's and 4 weeks holiday if you've got basic skills, good spelling and an interest in Geography.

Call Diana Gregan on 221 5072 right now.

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS.

"UP MARKET"
to £4,000

They supply high quality furniture for hotels and offices and want you to learn all about their products and the way they are sold. So—as P.A. to a Director—you'll deal with clients yourself and co-ordinate their enquiries with sales executives. Secretarial skills are all you need to call

Kathleen Wills on 405 0654 right now

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS.

AN EAR FOR LANGUAGES?

A good knowledge of German plus a smattering of others put to excellent use liaising on Advertising with German, French, Dutch, Belgium and Swedish branches of Sion Chic Group. Charming exec. boss travels 2-3 days a week—so n take charge linguist with secretarial skills can earn £3,700 plus free BUPA and LV's.

Call Val Davies on 734 7186 right away.

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS.

COSMETICS FOR EUROPE
£3,500 neg.

Get into New Colour Ranges and New Products plus Market Research in International Cosmetic House in Mayfair. European languages useful plus organising flair and secretarial skills. Flexi hours, 50p LV's per day, generous product discounts, STL.

Val Davies on 734 7186 can tell you more today.

DRAKE PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS.

225 REGENT STREET, LONDON, W.1.

SECRETARIAL

MEET THE PRESS!

A challenging opportunity for JUNIOR SECRETARY to get into the exciting world of PR. Shorthand useful but not essential. Salary £3,500 neg. Phone now Nina Crompton, 151 Regent St., W.1. on 734 0157.

HIGH SOCIETY!

JUNIOR SECRETARY required by a Director of a well-known society magazine. Interesting & varied work in luxurious offices in Mayfair. Accurate shorthand & good typing essential. Salary £3,000 neg + perks. Phone Nina Crompton, 151 Regent St. W1. on 734 0157.

CHEERS!

Marketing Department of an International Brewery need excellent CLERK TYPIST for their Head Office in the West End. Good typing & lots of initiative are the essential ingredients for this challenging position. Salary £3,600 + perks. Phone now Nina Crompton, 151 Regent St. W1. on 734 0157.

ROOM FOR THOUGHT!

SECRETARY required by the Operations Director of this luxurious International Hotel. The emphasis is on PA work, client contact and arranging meetings. Young outlook essential. Salary £4,000 neg + excellent perks. Phone now Nina Crompton, 151 Regent St. W1 on 734 0157.

RING THE CHANGES!

TELEPHONIST/RECEPTIONIST required to work for a Company in the West End operating a busy switchboard and receiving all company clients in their luxurious modern offices. Salary £3,500 NEG. lots of perks. Phone now Nina Crompton, 151 Regent St. W1 on 734 0157.

FIGURE THIS ONE OUT!

BOOKKEEPER required by a Trading Company in the West End. Previous experience, double entry bookkeeping and an understanding of control accounts on these ledgers. Knowledge of VAT and PAYE useful but not essential. Salary £4,000 NEG. Phone now, Nina Crompton, 151 Regent St. W1, on 734 0157.

Teasingly tempting rates for top calibre temps. Can you resist? Phone now. Denise Walsh on 734 0157.

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SECRETARIAL

P.A. TROUBLESHOOTER
£4,000

Expand your capabilities as you keep things rolling by organizing travel arrangements, luncheons and meetings. Supervisory talents are a decided asset as you assist in administering staff and play general troubleshooter with this young, successful director. With the possibility of attending seminars and conferences. This is a true P.A./Sec. role. Action U now, ring Sandy on 828 8055.

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Abford House, 15 Wilton Rd., S.W.1.

PRETTY PERCEPTIVE PERSONS

Wanting top jobs most suited to their talents and personality come straight to us. Mostly they've been recommended, but of course everyone knows it's such an unusually pleasant thing to do! Coffee's ready—welcome.

PERMANENT/TEMPORARY

JOYCE GUINESS BUREAU
21 BROMPTON ARCADE
BROMPTON ROAD
KNIGHTSBRIDGE, S.W.3.
(Brompton Arcade is a few steps from Knightsbridge Tube Station, Sloane St. exit)
589 8807/0010
THE Recruitment Consultants

AUDIO SECRETARY EXTRAORDINARY

Required by nomadic Sales Directors of Wine Merchants in W.2. with excellent audio skills and good telephone manner, you will want to use your initiative and accept responsibility. Good appearance and sense of humour welcome. Tailor-made individuals phone: Moya Howland, 723 2223.

SPANISH/FRENCH
£3,700

As PA/Sec to the Export Manager your Spanish and French will become a star asset as you become involved in running this famous international group from the top and liaise with opposite numbers overseas. Look ahead and get ahead by ringing Linda now on 828 8055.

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Abford House, 15 Wilton Rd., SW3.

COLLEGE LEAVER SECRETARIES

Interviews now for June/July starts including Book Publishing, Merchant Banking, Jermyn Street head office, Children's Charity, Fashion Group, University Professor and Farming organisations.

COVENT GARDEN BUREAU
56 Fleet St., E.C.4.
353 7696

MARKETING! Secretary/P.A. for young dynamic boss, City. Speeds not too important as job involves meeting clients, admin. work, etc. £3,500. Ring: Audrey Atkinson, Mantec Personnel Services, 353 1476 or 353 1201, 24 hours.

HAMMERSMITH AREA! V.P. Int. Co. needs well educated P.A., 25 plus, good formal skills, high level experience, personal work, entertaining clients, keeping expense accounts, etc. Super offices, flexi time, £4,250 p.a. Joyce Guiness Staff Bureau, 589 8807/0010.

FRENCH/ENGLISH PA. English shorthand, 21 plus, £4,300 plus. Language Staff Agy. 636 8385.

COMING to our drinks party on the 26th! Sal needing work today. Ring 584 4233.

SECRETARIAL

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
£3,900

Develop a realistic career in this interesting field as you organize and arrange this fascinating Director. Your day will be full as you get more and more involved in negotiations. Your self confidence and outgoing personality linked with your secretarial ability will ensure your future career. Make tomorrow's future today by ringing Mandi on 828 8055.

CHURCHILL PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS
Abford House, 15 Wilton Rd., S.W.1.

LEARN ABOUT EUROPE
Up to £4,000

The rising young executive of this European Division are just eager to reward you and your organisational ability. In this topical, exciting atmosphere, an opportunity in devotion and learn awaits you as you make decisions and get promotion. Play an enthusiastic role in this informal, fun loving co. and be successful. Ring Sonya on 828 8055.

CHURCHILL PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS
Abford House, 15 Wilton Rd, SW1

PERSONAL SECRETARY
Required by
DIRECTOR

of National Educational Charity in Modern Regent's Park offices. This senior appointment requires secretarial and administrative skills of a high order. Starting salary £4,000 p.a. Applications marked "Confidential" to Director, B.A.C.I.E., 16 Park Crescent, W.1.

CAPABLE HARDWORKING JUNIOR SECRETARY

Wanted to assist in friendly, small, busy aviation company in Piccadilly. Would work for the Managing Director and operate telex and small switchboard.

Salary £3,500 pa

Please phone Rayna Carter
409 0051

MAYFAIR GENTLEMEN'S CLUB

requires organised Secretary for small friendly office. 25-30 years old. £3,750 p.a. Bupa and very good lunches.

PLEASE RING
499 1360

KENSINGTON SURVEYORS are seeking a young recruit with good typing and preferably some shorthand to help them with a variety of duties. Salary up to £3,600. Ann Collett Secretarial Appointments, 229 2058/221 5173.

CHILDREN'S PUBLISHERS seek bright young assistant/typist. Languages helpful. Central London. Friendly atmosphere. Around £3,000 plus L.V.s. Ring Tricia: 01-836 6009.

TEMPORARIES. Top rates. All grades, Secs. £1.35. Belle Agy., 235 0731, 406 4844.

S.W.1. Deputy chairman with wide political and business interests needs P.A. Sec., 25-ish. High level experience. Good formal skills, ability to totally organise and run prestige office. £4,000 p.a. Joyce Guiness Staff Bureau, 589 8807/0010.

SECRETARIAL

OVERLAND TO EALING!
£3,800

Put excitement back into your life when you develop your secretarial skills to organize the life of this prominent business man. Arrange his days and support him totally. Celebrate the belief that your job is to be enjoyed here. Make it happen by ringing Carolyn on 828 8055.

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Abford House, 15 Wilton Road S.W.1.

PUT A PRICE ON YOUR HEAD
£3,700

It's responsibility you want and a multi-faceted day. Then this is for you. Exhibit your experience in trial balance and Kalamazoo and your PA/Sec talents to the full in this invaluable career position in retail and property. Snap up this rare opportunity and ring Peter St James immediately on 828 8055.

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Abford House,
15 Wilton Road, S.W.3.

TOP OF THE WORLD
£3,800 + bonus + more.

Take comfort—luxurious surroundings and benefits galore are the order of the day. Cash in on your reliability and audio aptitude as you liaise, administrate and organize assets. Build your future with this friendly, professional company, they offer great prospects. Make contact on 828 8055 and call Ursula now.

CHURCHILL PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS
Abford House, 15 Wilton Rd., S.W.1.

STEAMROLLER TO WEST AFRICA
£4,000 + +

Speak French? Bookkeeping background? Combine these with your top PA/Sec skills and you're absolutely the right person to become involved with this fast growing, fast moving, avant garde company. Making business decisions on choice and being in touch with more countries in more locations than ever before. Ring Carolyn at once on 828 8055.

CHURCHILL PERSONNEL CONSULTANTS
Abford House, 15 Wilton Road, S.W.1.

ARE YOU AN ADMIN. WIZARD?

If so, Director of Management Consultants requires P.A./Sec. to assist him. Involvement in projects, lots of admin. work and telephone liaison. £4,000. 4-5 wks. hols. + LV's.

Phone Jacqueline or Jayne
629 1904 A1 STAFF BUREAU

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LATE NIGHT OPENING FACILITIES.

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AT £4,000 -

Grasp this challenge of ... pletely creating a brand ... outlet in this reputable ... Your independent mind ... for admin. will be fulfi... organizing conferences & ... ings, liaising at all ... clients home and from a... delegating & using plen... initiative. Organize & sup... make decisions & get ... tion. You've got the s... so phone Sheena on 828 ...

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CONSULTANTS
Abford House, 15 Wilton R...

CREAM OF THE C...
£4,500

Spur yourself on ... in this newly created ... personnel! Your secr... background, initiative a... ahead personality will ... running the personnel ... ment of this major co... Be in on the decision ... that creates the com... future. Be invaluable! ... Simone now on 828 8...

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Abford House, 15 Wilton ...

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£4,500

In a total PA capacity ... be relied upon to liaise ... international scale. In ... the return in your car... you organize the busine... social affairs for this ... director. Total invol... and responsibility are a... in these extremely plus... elegant surroundings. S... is waiting. Ring An... 828 8055.

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CONSULTANTS
Abford House, 15 Wilton ...
S.W.1.

NOUGHTS & CROS...
£4,000 + BONU...

Behind the wheel or ... toes—plant your feet fir... the ladder of success to... staunch PA/Sec back-up ... small, extremely friendly ... pany. Your bubbly pe... discretion and a secretari... enable you to be to the ... and liaise with Charm... Directors. Pick up the ... and ring Ursula on 828 ... today.

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SECRETARIAL APPOINTMENTS ALSO ON PAGES 12 AND 20

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BIBURY 224

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RELIABLE YOUNG MAN, Swedish, 27 years. Business Economics graduate, tax expert, fluent Swedish, English and German, seeks work in London.—Box 1352 K, The Times.

ENGLISH WOMAN, late fifties, splendid references, would caretake, London. No charge.—Box 1231 K, The Times.

SOCIAL SCI. Graduate (Cantab.) requires London work.—M. Driscoll, 883 0292 after 8.30 p.m.

YOUR MAN IN SPAIN. Young Spaniard (27), British University graduate, soon moving to Spain seeks challenging position. Box 1343 K, The Times.

6.55 pm BBC 1	Imagine how American television would present Ask the Family and then savour its austerity. The intimidating final is tonight.
8.15 pm BBC 2	Catholic Europe is to sample Dave Allen's irreverent humour. A special show, previewed tonight, is on its way to the Montreux festival next month.
10.45 pm BBC 2	Cartoonists rarely alter their style with time. Ralph Steadman, very much of the Sixties, is the subject of Arena.—P.V.

BBC 1

6.40 am, Open University: Chicago's Transport; 7.05, Stantonbury: A Curriculum Blueprint; 7.30-7.55, Mechanics. 10.45-11.00, You and Me. 12.45 pm, News. 1.00, Pebble Mill. 1.45-2.00, Camberwick Green. 3.15, Songs of Praise. 3.55, Play School. 4.20, Tarzan, Lord of the Jungle. 4.40, Cheggers Plays Pop. 5.05, John Craven. 5.10, Blue Peter.

5.40 News. 5.55, Nationwide.
6.20 Nationwide with Prince Charles.
6.55 Ask the Family.
7.20 Angels.
8.10 Panorama.
9.00 News.
9.25 Film: Sabata, with Lee Van Cleef, William Berger.
11.05 Tonight.
11.45 Weather.

Regional variations (BBC 1): BBC WALES: 1.45-2.00 pm, Pili Pala. 5.55-6.20, Wales Today. 6.55-7.20, Heddiw. SCOTLAND: 5.55-6.20 pm, Reporting Scotland. 11.05, Public Account. 11.40, News. NORTHERN IRELAND: 3.53-3.55 pm, Northern Ireland News. 5.55-6.20, Scene Around Six.

BBC 2

6.40 am, Open University; Human Factors in Aviation; 7.05, Quantum Theory and Atomic Structure; 7.30-7.55, Tropical Forest. 11.00-11.25, Play School. 4.55, Open University: The Market Town; 5.20, Zone Fossils; 5.45, Maths; 6.10, M101/10 Area Games; 6.35, Atoms and Molecules.

7.00 News Headlines.
7.05 Children's Wardrobe.
7.30 Newsday.
8.15 Dave Allen at Large (1978 BBC entry at the Montreux Light Entertainment Festival).
8.50 Waterways of China.
9.00 Pickersgill People: Under the Moon of Love.
9.55 Embassy World Professional Snooker Championship; highlights.
10.45 Arena: Art and Design: Ralph Steadman, cartoonist.
11.20 News.
11.30 Open Door: Inland Waterways Association on Canals.

12.00-12.10 am, Georgine Anderson reads Home Thoughts from Abroad, by Robert Browning.

Thames

12.00, Jamie and the Magic Torch. 12.10 pm, Pipkins (r). 12.30, Drive-In (r). 1.00, News. 1.20, Help! 1.30, About Britain. 2.00, After Noon. 2.25, Film: A Fine Madness, with Sean Connery, Joanne Woodward, Jean Seberg. 4.20, Clapperboard. 4.45, The Feathered Serpent. 5.15, Batman (r).

5.45 News. 6.00, Thames at 6.
6.40 Help!
6.45 Whodunnit?
7.30 Coronation Street.
8.00 Devenish.
8.30 World in Action.
9.00 Rumpole of the Bailey.
10.00 News.
10.30 Film: Fire Down Below, with Rita Hayworth, Robert Mitchum, Jack Lemmon.

12.40 am, Epilogue.
(r) Repeat

Granada

12.00, Thames. 12.30 pm, How to Stay Alive. 1.00, News. 1.20, Dodo. 1.30, Thames. 2.25, Film: Letters from Three Lovers, with June Allyson, Juliet Mills. 3.50, Beryl's Lot. 4.20, Thames. 5.15, ATV. 6.00, Granada Reports. 6.20, This is Your Right. 6.45, Thames. 10.30, Reports Politics. 11.00-12.35 am, Film: Fingers at the Window, with Basil Rathbone.*

* Black and white.

Southern

12.00, Thames. 12.30 pm, Farm Progress (r). 1.00, News. 1.20, Southern News. 1.30, About Britain. 2.00, Houseparty. 2.25, Film: The Specialists, with Robert York. 3.50, Beryl's Lot. 4.20, Thames. 5.15, Mr and Mrs. 5.45, News. 6.00, Day by Day. 6.45, Thames. 10.30, Man and Woman. 11.00, Southern News. 11.10, Lanigan's Rabbi. 12.35 am, Weather. Epilogue.

ATV

12.00, Thames. 12.30 pm, Gardening. 1.00, News. 1.20, ATV News. 1.30, Thames. 2.25, Film: The Seven Year Itch, with Marilyn Monroe, Tom Ewell. 4.20, Thames. 5.15, University Challenge. 5.45, News. 6.00, ATV Today. 6.45, Thames. 10.30, Left, Right and Centre. 11.00, Columbo (r). 12.25-12.40 am, Something Different.

HTV

12.00, Thames. 12.30 pm, Landscape. 1.00, News. 1.20, West Headlines. 1.25, Wales Headlines. 1.30, Southern. 2.25, Film: Sidney Poitier and Shelley Winters in A Patch of Blue.* 4.20, Thames. 5.15, ATV. 6.00, Report West. 6.22, Report Wales. 6.45, Thames. 10.35-12.45 am, Film: Marlon Brando, Jane Fonda, Robert Redford and James Fox in The Chase. HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV except: 1.20-1.25 pm, Penawdau Newyddion y Dydd. 2.00-2.25, Hamdden. 6.00-6.22, Y Dydd. 8.30-9.00, Yr Wythnos. HTV WEST: As HTV except: 1.20-1.30 pm, West Headlines. 6.22-6.45, Report West.

Yorkshire

12.00, Thames. 12.30 pm, Granada. 1.20, Calendar News. 1.30, Thames. 2.25, Family. 3.20, Music at Harewood. 3.50, Beryl's Lot. 4.20, Thames. 5.15, ATV. 6.00, Calendar. 6.45, Thames. 10.30, Lifestyle. 11.00-11.55, Police Woman.

Scottish

12.00, Thames. 12.30, ATV. 1.25, Road Report. 1.30, Thames. 2.25, Granada. 3.50, Beryl's Lot (r). 4.20, Thames. 5.15, ATV. 6.00, Scotland Today. 6.30, Crimedesk. 6.45, Thames. 10.30, Andy Williams. 11.00, From the Top. 11.30, Late Call. 11.35-12.30 am, The Prisoner (r).

Ulster

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Lunchtime. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, See You Monday. 2.30, Film: A Matter of Life and Death, with David Niven, Kim Hunter, Marius Goring, Raymond Massey, Richard Attenborough, Roger Livesey. 4.20, Thames. 5.15, ATV. 6.00, Ulster Television News. 6.05, The Partners. 6.30, Reports. 6.45, Thames. 10.30, Talk. 10.35, Ulster Nurse of the Year. 11.05, Within These Walls. 12.00, Bedtime.

Anglia

12.00, Thames. 12.30 pm, Out of Town. 1.00, News. 1.25, Anglia News. 1.30, Southern. 2.25, Family. 3.20, George Hamilton IV. 3.50, In Search of ... 4.20, Thames. 5.15, ATV. 6.00, About Anglia. 6.45, Thames. 10.30, Lifestyle. Andy Smith. 11.00, Film: Phantom of Hollywood, with Skye Aubrey, Jack Cassidy. 12.40 am, Reflection.

Border

12.00, Thames. 12.30 pm, ATV. 1.20, Border News. 1.30, Southern. 2.25, Film, Edward My Son, with Spencer Tracy, Deborah Kerr. 4.20, Thames. 5.15, Garnock Way. 5.45, News. 6.00, Lookaround. 6.15, University Challenge. 6.45, Thames. 10.30, Border Month. 11.15, Jasper Carrott. 11.45, The Streets of San Francisco. 12.40 am, Border News.

Grampian

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Grampian News Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 2.25, Simply Sewing. 2.55, Film, Flame of Araby, with Maureen O'Hara, Jeff Chandler, Maxwell Reed. 4.20, Thames. 5.15, ATV. 6.00, Grampian Today. 5.15, Wildlife Cinema. 6.45, Thames. 10.30, Film. Reflections. 10.35-12.30 am, The Summer of '42, with Jennifer O'Neill, Gary Grimes, Jerry Houser.

Westward

12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Westward News Headlines. 1.30, Thames. 2.25, Film: The Trouble with Angels, with Rosalind Russell, Hayley Mills, June Harding. 4.20, Thames. 5.15, ATV. 6.00, Westward Diary. 6.25, Sports Desk. 6.45, Thames. 8.00, Rising Damp. 8.30, Thames. 10.30, Film: The Shuttered Room, with Gig Young, Carol Lynley, Oliver Reed, Flora Robson. 12.15 am, Faith for Life.

Tyne Tees

12.00, Thames. 12.30 pm, Last of the Wild. 1.00, News. 1.20, North East News. 1.30, Thames. 2.25, Power Without Glory. 3.20, The Generation Scene. 3.35, The Little Rascals. 3.50, Beryl's Lot. 4.20, Thames. 5.15, ATV. 6.00, Northern Life. 6.40, Police Call. 6.45, Thames. 10.30, Lifestyle. 11.00, Danger in Paradise. 12.00, Epilogue.

Channel

2.15 pm, Channel News. 1.30, Thames. 2.25, Film: Trouble with Angela. 4.20, Thames. 5.15, ATV. 6.00, Channel News. 6.10, The Amazing Chan. 6.35, Thames. 8.00, Rising Damp. 8.30, Thames. 10.32, Film: The Shuttered Room. 12.15 am, News. Channel Gazette.

Radio

1

5.00 am, News; Ray Moore.† 7.02, Noel Edmonds. 9.00, Simon Bates. 11.31, Paul Burnett. 2.00 pm, Tony Blackburn. 4.31, Kid Jensen. 7.30, Alan Dell. 9.02, Humphrey Lyttelton.† 9.55, Sports Desk. 10.02, John Peel.† 12.00, News. 12.05 am, Brian Matthew. 2.00-2.02 am, News.

† Stereo.

2

5.00 am, News. 5.02, Ray Moore.† 7.32, Terry Wogan.† (8.27, Racing bulletin.) 10.02, Jimmy Young.† 12.15 pm, Waggoners' Walk. 12.30, Pete Murray.† 2.30, David Hamilton.† 4.30, Waggoners' Walk. 4.45, Sports Desk. 4.47, John Dunn.† 6.45, Sport. 7.02, Northern Radio Orchestra.† 7.30, Radio 1. 10.02, Movie Quiz. 10.30, Star Sound. 11.02, Brian Matthews. 2.00 am, News.

3

6.55 am, Weather. 7.00, News. 7.05, Borodin, Debussy, Lyadov, Ravel, Chabrier.† 8.00, News. 8.05, Milhaud, Tchaikovsky.† 9.00, News. 9.05, Obrecht and De La Rue.† 9.50, Talking about Music.† 10.20, Clarinet and Viola: Mozart and Uhl.† 11.55, BBC Symphony Orchestra: Liszt, Haydn.† 1.00 pm, News. 1.05, BBC Lunchtime Concert: Brahms, Schubert.† 2.00, Matinee Musicale.† 3.00, Peter Eben (organ recital).† 3.35, Medici String Quartet: Haydn, Smetana.† 4.30, New Records: Stanford, Berkeley, Howells.† 5.15, Bandstand.† 5.45, Homeward bound. 6.05, News. 6.10, Homeward Bound. 6.30, Animal Sounds and Meanings. 7.00, Doctor and Patient. 7.30, Alicia de Larrocha (piano), part 1: Soler, Schubert.† 8.25, Ralph Richardson reads Blake. 8.45, Recital, part 2: Falla.† 9.25, Though Graves be Hollow, story of the Crimean War. 10.25, Plainsong and the Rise of European Music.† 11.10, Vivaldi.† 11.25, News. 11.30-11.35, Schubert Song.†

4

6.15 am, News. 6.17, Farming. 6.35, Up to the Hour. 7.00, News. 7.10, Today. 7.35, Up to the Hour. 8.00, News. 8.10, Today. 8.45, James Cameron. 9.00, News. 9.05, Richard Baker. 10.00, News. 10.05, Wildlife. 10.30, Service. 10.45, Story. 11.00, News. 11.05, Nunaga, the story of Duncan Pryde with the Eskimos. 11.50, Announcements. 12.00, News. 12.02 pm, You and Yours. 12.27, Brain of Britain. 12.55, Weather. 1.00, News. 1.30, The Archers. 1.45, Women's Hour. 2.45, Listen with Mother. 3.00, News. 3.05, Play: The 3.30 Human Race. 4.35, Story: Mansfield Park. 5.00, PM Reports. 5.40, Down the Garden Path. 5.55, Weather. 6.00, News. 6.30, Hinge and Bracket. 7.00, News. 7.05, The Archers. 7.20, From Our Own Correspondent. 7.45, Play: Willoughby's Phoney War. 9.15, A Sideways Look at VAT. 9.30, Kaleidoscope. 9.59, Weather. 10.00, News. 10.30, Profile. 11.00, A Book at Bedtime: Brighton Rock. 11.15, The Financial World Tonight. 11.30, Today in Parliament. 12.00, News. 12.20-12.23 am, Inshore forecast.

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(continued on page 28)

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ALSO ON PAGE 27

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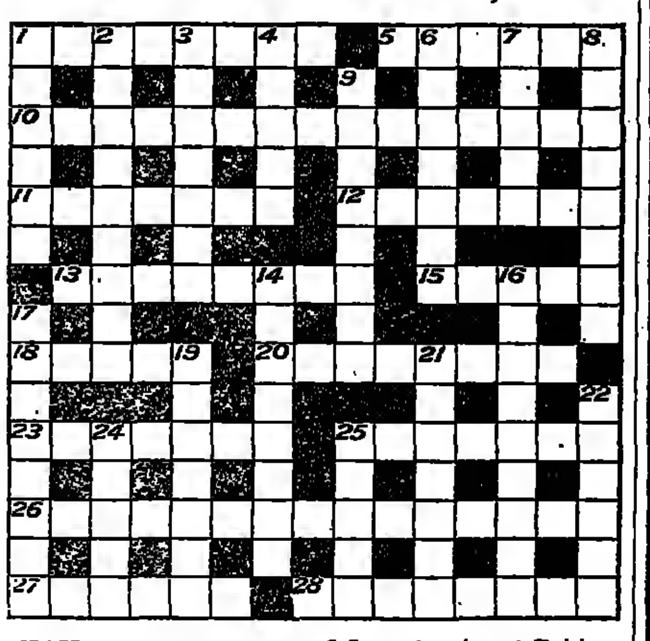
The Times Crossword Puzzle No 14,882



ACROSS

1 Those who pay, putting paid to betting odds (6).
5 Ace pressman looked astonished (6).
10 American festival piece ended with Danny in disarray (12, 3).
11 Scottish sportsmen get in a girl's hair (7).
12 Monte Carlo driver recovering his strength? (7).
13 Unusual taste in oriental liqueur (8).
15 She's a help coming back (5).
18 Governor tucked into spirit of rhubarb (5).
20 Constructs tree dwelling, if in trouble inside (8).
23 Electoral system one queen finds original (7).
25 Write cunningly about a way to cheat (7).
26 French free gift to those celebrating 10 (6, 2, 7).
27 Put to bed, like some tennis players? (6).
28 Mollified and relaxed after a very quiet start (8).

DOWN

1 Minimal clothing supplied by sempstress (6).
2 It's intolerable to be past it (9).
3 Cause despondency by placing record in cover (7).
4 The Right finishes in tears (5).
6 Stopped trying at Twickenham? (7).
7 Boos in dairies are uncommonly pointless (5).
8 Adder may disturb one's light reverie (8).
9 Help Old Contemptibles in red cataclysm (8).
14 Arthur Lord gets cross with New York boy (8).
16 Openings for a saucy sort of ruse (9).
17 What man does may be disposed of by higher authority (8).
19 Dance in the yard, say (7).
21 Crumbly like chips? (7).
22 Beamish boy, retired, made asinine comment (6).
24 Picture one game that went wrong (5).
25 Blooming impertinence of organized labour! (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 14,881

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United Arab Emirates

a Special Report

Federation makes progress despite internal rivalries

Geoffrey Weston

United Arab Emirates its seventh year, con- those critics who ed its prospects for val and those hostile h to wish for its de- Setting up the struc- of the state administra- almost from scratch has a daunting task in the of a traditional system d on tribal affinities and rate allegiances to the ruling families, one for emirate.

he vast wealth from oil ues, the strategic value joining forces and the ogeneity of the people e differences have per- too often obscured their mon bonds, are all fac- that have contributed to stability of the country. relative power and pres- ty of the emirates has uated throughout their ry. Ras al Khaymah held sway over the e of Sharjah. Early this ry Sharjah had greater h than any of its neigh- s through the pearling try which collapsed in 1920s when the market taken over by cultured s from Japan.

It not easy for a people, ered along a coastal in a series of what were fishing and trading munities until 15 years to accept the pecking that oil wealth has lished. It was inevit- that, when Britain d out of its commit- s in The Gulf in Novem- 1971, that Abu Dhabi, far greater reserves any of its fellow emir- should assume the ical leadership.

s ruler, Shaikh Zayed bin an al Nahayan, appears njoy the role of federal ident and the popularity h his generosity brings within his own emirate a wide spectrum of d World countries that benefited from his aid ramme. He is not, how- seen in quite the same as some of the other

The growing power of the 24,000-strong federal admini- stration is sometimes seen as a threat to their local independence even though the federal budget is paid for almost entirely by Shaikh Zayed.

In some ways Dubai, a dynamic trading centre before the present period of affluence, is the despair of the bureaucrats. It has been described as a gigantic hold- ing company with Shaikh Rashid bin Said al Maktum, the Ruler, as its brilliant chairman, chief executive and governing board rolled into one. His administration, an elite group of fellow traders, is extremely small, decisions are taken swiftly, often on an ad hoc basis, and they are carried out with equal speed.

In spite of being vice-president of the federation, Shaikh Rashid has little time for politics or the slow and ponderous approach adooted in Abu Dhabi. Although the rivalry between him and Shaikh Zayed is undeniable they cooperate en matters of mutual interest. Shaikh Sultan bin Mohammed al Qasim, Ruler of Sharjah, is Shaikh Zayed's staunchest ally, although the rulers of the poorer emirates—Ajman, Umm al Qaywayn and Al Fujayrah —tend to accept federal policies laid down by the others.

Gestures of local pride or independence by some of the rulers have occasionally resulted in confrontation which noticeably stops short of armed conflict. Often, however, it is seen in absurd and wasteful duplication.

Most serious has been the proliferation of seaport and airport developments. There are now four international airports, the most important in Abu Dhabi and Dubai. Ras al Khaymah, not to be left out but admittedly more remote, opened its airport two years ago with one flight a week. Sharjah opened one last year only five miles from the one in Dubai.

The shipping berth surplus results from an understandable reaction to the congestion of only a few months ago, when 100 days was a common delay in The Gulf for ships waiting to unload. A Gulf traffic study, prepared for Sharjah Port Authority by Port Management Services and published last month, shows how critical the reverse problem could become unless drastic replanning was carried out.

At present there are 150 berths in 15 ports around The Gulf. If present plans are carried out there will be 476 at 24 ports in a few years. The UAE already has more berths than any other Gulf country and is due to increase its present numbers from 40 to 213.

A large proportion of the region's imports pass through Dubai, which is building the world's biggest drydock. Sharjah is making a complex bid for business with an integrated system based on Port Khalid, the first purpose-built container port in The Gulf, and Khor Fakkan, a deepwater container terminal in the Gulf of Oman. A road transport network links the two with Sharjah airport.

Competition between the emirates has offered vast opportunities both for foreign businessmen and immigrant labourers. Relations with Britain, stemming from many years of association before independence, are extremely good and the brisk and expanding commercial links are reflected in the two British embassies, one in Abu Dhabi and the other in Dubai. Businessmen admit that being British immediately gives them a start over their rivals and British imports are second only to the Japanese.

The UAE is the world's most overbanked country with about 55 banks and 340 branches for a population of fewer than 900,000. The credit squeeze imposed last May and subsequent recession have been followed by more modest and controlled growth this year.

Legislation to replace the UAE Currency Board by a new central bank was outlined to a meeting of bankers last January. Its future depends on cooperation between the emirates, particularly Dubai, which has always favoured a laisser faire economy.

Not surprisingly less emphasis has been placed on prestige projects and large expansion. Abu Dhabi has in effect shelved its plans for a huge industrial complex at Ruwais, although Dubai is continuing with its counterpart at Jebel Ali.

Sharjah, where the effects of the oil boom arrived late, has been hardest hit by the recession.

In an effort to overcome the economic crisis Shaikh Sultan secured a loan of $200m last month from the Banque Arabe et Internationale d'Investissement, which is guaranteed by Abu Dhabi.

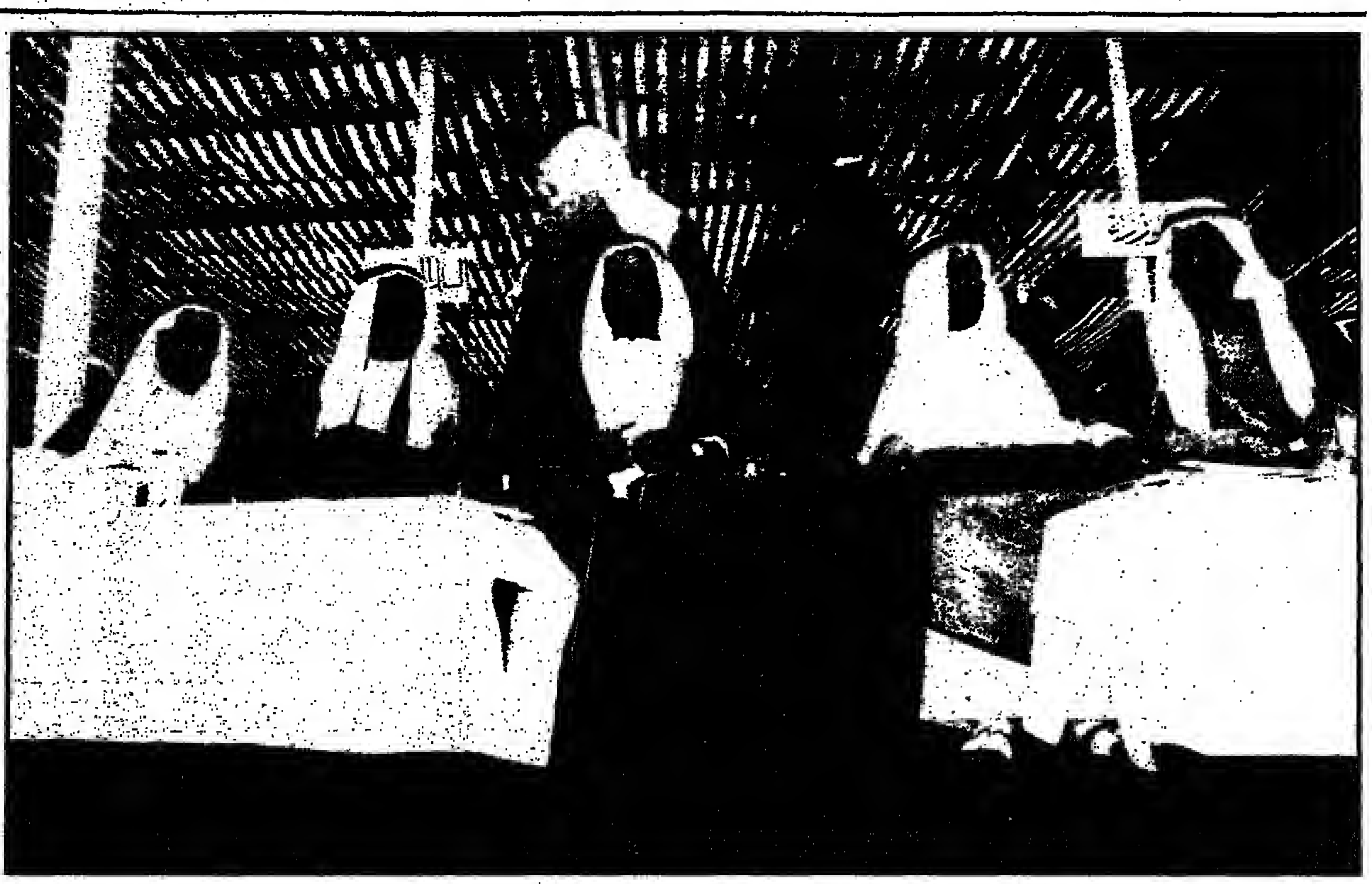
Inflation is still running at well over 30 per cent a year, although Dubai, Sharjah and, more recently, Abu Dhabi have taken measures to curb rents, one of its main causes. Abu Dhabi has also reduced some of the worst effects by delaying payments for five months—a move which has also affected Sharjah, since some of its projects are paid through the federal purse. Discontent has been aroused in the smaller emirates since the Currency Board's decision to stop lending money last summer.

Integrating the Armed Forces has been the key to federal progress. After years of wrangling they are now in one federal uniform, but Shaikh Zayed raised a storm in February when he appointed his own son commander-in-chief without consulting the other emirates. This incensed both Shaikh Saqr bin Mohammad al Qasimi, Ruler of Ras al Khaymah, and Shaikh Rashid, whose son is defence minister. Informed observers regarded the appointment as an act of clumsiness rather than a move to impose authority from above

Immigrants, who make up four-fifths of the population, continue to be the most contentious issue of all, one which is only aggravated by economic growth. To what extent the federal administration is run by expatriates for expatriates is just one aspect of the problem that exercises the minds of the seven rulers.

Although Britain is occasionally blamed for some of the UAE's problems, it did not leave behind it a legacy of Western institutions like democratic elections, a free press or trade unions. The UAE is evolving slowly on traditional partriarchal lines and the squabbles that arise from time to time are part of that continuing process.

To an extent they may be smoothed over by Shaikh Zayed's continuing largesse, but only time may make the blurring of old allegiances part of a preferable way of life as the educated youth learn to appreciate the benefits of federation.



Piercing looks for Shaikh Zayed (centre), the President of the UAE, from Shaikh Rashid (left) of Dubai, and Shaikh Saqr (far left), of Ras al Khaymah, the two most independent rulers in the federation. Other members of the Supreme Council watching a National Day parade are Shaikh Sultan, the Ruler of Sharjah, and Shaikh Hamad (far right), the Ruler of Al Fujayrah. *Photograph: Christine Osborne*

طبق الأصل

Jeremy Landor describes the United Arab Emirates' role within the Arab World, and writes on the country's role within The Gulf and the security measures it entails

Close ally but no tool of the Saudi rulers

The rest of the Arab world is known to natives of The Gulf as "the northern Arabs", expressing the gap which is sometimes felt between the two. A joke is told by the "northern Arabs" to illustrate an apparent inability by the Gulf Arabs to make any clear decision on issues concerning the rest of the Arab world. A man goes to his local mosque to pray, but he finds the door shut when he arrives. He goes home without any hesitation, saying to himself: "Well, the decision was theirs, not mine."

That may not make you laugh, but it should help you to understand that there is a certain amount of mockery in the attitude of the rest of the arab world to their Gulf brothers. This attitude results from the heavy reliance on Gulf funds by many Arab countries which resent their own economic weakness and suffer constant disappointment when the political support fails to match the financial.

Recently two Arab states in particular have had reason to feel embittered. The most immediate is Egypt, whose President suffered considerably when Saudi Arabia and The Gulf states refused to come out in favour of his negotiations with Israel. The other was Syria, whose economy was brought to the verge of collapse when President Assad's intervention in Lebanon drew disapproval from his financial backers. Nor could those states which came out strongly against President Sadat's extended hand rejoice in any support from the south.

The United Arab Emirates—mainly Abu Dhabi—is one of the main supporters of the Arab frontline states against Israel, particularly Egypt through The Gulf Fund for the Development of Egypt. But its main contribution to the Arab war effort is a share of at least £75m in the Arab Military Industries Organization (AMIO). The setting up of an indigenous arms industry fits in with one of the mainstays of UAE policy, to be as independent as possible from the big powers.

A great deal of financial and diplomatic help is given to the Palestinians of course. During 1973, the year of the October war, 40 per cent of the emirates' oil revenue went in foreign grants and loans. In 1976 it was 27 per cent, which amounted to £735m, and in 1977 the amount invested overseas (a substantial proportion in the Arab countries) increased by 850 per cent. From these figures it is possible to judge the growing extent to which the UAE is committed to helping the Arab cause with the ultimate aim of Arab unity.

Wide reputation for generosity

When talking of UAE commitment we are talking mainly about Abu Dhabi, since it is by far the richest emirate. It can be further narrowed down to the person of Shaikh Zayed bin Sultan al-Nahayan, who decides where most of the money goes, and not surprisingly has won a wide reputation for his generosity and statesmanship.

It is well known that Shaikh Zayed works closely with the Saudi rulers on matters of foreign policy. They were the only two countries to limit the 1976 oil price rise to 5 per cent when the other 11 Opec members decided on 10 per cent. But this cooperation, which the UAE considers necessary to its survival, can also work against its long-term interests.

In March, 1977, Saudi Arabia decided it was time to put pressure on the 11 wayward oil states by raising production, and to persuade Abu Dhabi to do the same. But whereas Saudi Arabia has the reserves to be able to stand such a rise in production, Abu Dhabi has not. In fact Abu Dhabi has always had a policy of conserving its oil resources for as long as possible. UAE officials questioned at the time about the 500,000 barrels a day production increase refused to comment on whether there had been Saudi pressure.

Mr Ahmad Khalifa al-Suwaida, the UAE Foreign Minister, has suggeste[d closer] ties with the Soviet Union and rapprochement with Iraq.

A certain amount of independence has been shown by the UAE in choosing the sources of its arms supplies. This policy has been partly due to the refusal of the United States to provide arms to the smaller Gulf states in case an alliance of Gulf states should threaten the hegemony of its chosen Gulf gendarme, Iran.

The emirates have nevertheless built up a small but well-equipped federal army which held impressive manoeuvres last year, showing off modern weaponry such as French Mirages. The UAE has not managed to be as independent of Saudi influence as Kuwait, which is buying arms from the Soviet Union (although Saudi Arabia stood firmly against sending Kuwaitis to train in the Soviet Union), but it has been helped by India, Pakistan, Jordan, France and Britain in training and equipping its army and police.

When Shaikh Zayed was interviewed by a Kuwaiti newspaper last October, he was asked whether the UAE's relationship with Saudi Arabia was one of equals, or one in which the UAE was dominated. The President's answer was characteristically evasive: "Saudi Arabia's influence over the UAE is the same as the UAE's influence over Saudi Arabia". Shaikh Zayed obviously has his reasons for sidestepping the question.

There is a vital sphere of foreign policy where the UAE has a role of its own to play. This is in with Third World when Saudi Arabia of its relations United States, always be as effecti UAE, whose positio as leaning more tow non-aligned.

Among a host World countries the UAE are the cases of Somalia trea. These bec former alignme the Soviet Union in of Somalia—or bec political character country makes likely to be aligne "progressive" than with the tive" ones—as of Eritrea, which tially a movement—find direct with Saud more difficult.

The UAE is kno the region's bigge contributor to the liberation moveme Somali officials most frequent vi Abu Dhabi of all t having relations UAE. In addition, has promised $137 to African countries

Interest in safety first brings a certain paranoia

Officials in the United Arab Emirates say that even the most optimistic of observers could not have predicted in 1971, when the British withdrew, that today The Gulf would be so stable, and a secure source for Western oil supplies.

It seemed unlikely, at the time of the British withdrawal, that the local states would be able to fill the power vacuum without direct intervention of the super powers.

The formula which was found ratifying United States domination over the area by the use of proxy powers—Saudi Arabia and Iran, but especially the latter—has been a reasonably happy one for the rulers of the smaller emirates who have managed to maintain their independence and also to find the right conditions for promoting unity among themselves in the face of growing Iranian military might.

Because of its vulnerability, and the good relations the President enjoys with the Saudi rulers, the UAE has allied itself with Saudi Arabia. However, relations with the other powerful neighbour, Iran, have been uneasy since the Shah's army seized Abu Musa island from Sharjah, and the Two Tumbs from Ras al Khaymah.

Aggressive act has not been forgotten

This act of aggression on the eve of independence has not been forgotten, but the emirates have learnt from this experience that they cannot survive on their own, but that as a closely knit federation backed by the Saudis they can prosper.

The Gulf states have an overriding interest in keeping The Gulf secure so that their wealth can grow. From this need has developed a certain paranoia about protecting the region from subversion or foreign intervention.

Foreign in this case means Soviet, although there have been many rumours about the formation of a special force in the United States to intervene in The Gulf if necessary, as well as reports that Israel is prepared to attack Gulf oil installations.

It is considered probable that Soviet-backed Iraq and South Yemen would encourage subversion. This has become more likely recently, after a period of several years when the anxiety subsided, because relations between Saudi Arabia and South Yemen have once again deteriorated.

An example of the deep concern for the security of the Hormuz Strait can be found in a recent and seemingly trivial incident. Last December it was reported that there had been an explosion in a tanker passing through the strait. The strait was blocked for several hours before the ship could be moved.

Urgent consultations took place between the bordering states to discuss the implications of the incident and a further meeting was arranged to be held in Teheran. The Gulf states are worried that a determined group of rebels wishing ill to the local rulers and their Western allies might bring world oil supplies to a halt by sinking a couple of super-tankers in the right place. This fear is not very realistic given the volume of oil stockpiled by industrialized nations which would see them through a temporary crisis of this nature.

This sort of alarm does not compare with the sort of threats which were in the air a few years ago. It was only in 1973 that a number of Dhofaris in the Abu Dhabi Armed Forces were arrested for organizing a cell of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman and the Arab Gulf (PFLOAG). Shaikh Zayed bin Sultan al-Nahayan of Abu Dhabi hurried to Oman to offer his support to Sultan Qabus in fighting the Chinese-backed Dhofaris. The conflict had its positive side for the UAE, because in the same way as fear of Iran had helped to unite the seven emirates, the Dhofar war meant that differences between Oman and the UAE were suspended.

Recently, with the subsiding of the Dhofar war, the old dispute over Oman's claim to substantial parts of Ras-al-Khayman flared up once again. Sultan Qabus made a show of strength which was rumoured to include units of the Iranian Army, a rumour which gains credibility against the background of Iran's role along with British and Jordanians in crushing the Dhofaris, and the Shah's visit to Muscat which preceded the Sultan's move. Sultan Qabus's ambitions to play a larger role in The gulf and his cooperation with the Shah have meant a corresponding deterioration in UAE relations with Iran, although certain individual rulers like Shaikh Rashid bin Sultan al-Maktum of Dubai continue to have close personal relations with the Iranian Ruler which contradict Shaikh Zayed's notable coolness

The last serious attempt to organize coordination between the Gulf states in order to improve security was in November 1976, when all the Gulf states, including Iraq, met in Muscat. The talks were abortive, mainly because Iran and Iraq were suspicious of each other's intentions: Iran proposed a military alliance of Gulf states which Iraq regarded as a way of rubber-stamping Iranian domination of The Gulf.

Need to offset weighty US domination

At the Muscat conference the UAE Foreign Minister, Mr Ahmad Khalifa al-Suwaida, made farsighted and controversial suggestions concerning the necessity to offset the weighty American surrogate domination of The Gulf by initiating closer ties with the Soviet Union, including rapprochement with Iraq. Such a step would have opened a new chapter in the history of The Gulf, but traditional fears of the Soviet Union preclude any such attempt to find greater independence by walking a tightrope between the super powers, although the ambitions of the UAE clearly lie in that direction.

Since there seems little hope of such a conference being convened in the near future, the UAE now has to be satisfied with less formal cooperation. In July, 1977, Shaikh Zayed said a formal defence pact between the Gulf states was not necessary, it was "not preferable to sincerity . . . among brothers, and in fact it might raise problems among its members".

It appears that Shaikh Zayed has given up the struggle to establish formal security in The Gulf because of insoluble rivalries, or has he? In a recent interview with Iranian journalists during a visit to Teheran he admitted that he was seeking new ways to achieve security and stability in The Gulf.

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Lack of cooperation between the emirates is seriously endangering water supplies. An American survey team says that sources could run dry within five years. Geoffrey Weston discusses steps taken so far

Nuclear power suggested for massive desalination plant in mountains

nd water supplies ited Arab Emir- run dry within s unless urgent are taken to con- n, according to Mr is, the leader of a from the United reau of Reclama- ch has recently ut a survey of plies for the Gov- Over the past four foreseeable eco- owth and a vast foreigners have ic difficulties to a

ol the natural accumulate in the uifers, a gravelly ching from Al Ain s to Ras al Khay- e rainfall averages mm a year com- h 200mm in the ous areas bordering in the north.

ths of 10 to 30 deposits suffer no evaporation. in the searing temperatures much saline levels are by both humans nts, the line of c salinity is retreat- ards from The Gulf an alarming rate.

the one hand the dry out they become s to water aod can revived. On the they become saline, er still cannot peoe- disaster which, Mr iots out, has already d in Los Aogeles.

verse circumstaoces vely aggravated by inate well-boring. cal inhabitant who to farm is given the Government, Ministry of Agricul- d Fisheries is then ound to provide the water supplies. As wells are being dug equeotly and more nt, as water becomes more difficult to fiod, salinity levels mount and more farms are abandoned.

Sadly, the Beduin who take up these rights do not in many cases depend on their farms as a principal source of income but employ immigrants to look after them, and efficiency suffers.

Io spite of enormous nrban growth, agriculture still swallows up 80 per cent of supplies. Two years ago the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization estimated its consumption at 140 million cu metres a year compared with 24 million cu metres by the cities, while 60 million cu metres was lost through evaporatioo aod natural plant life. As the rate of recharge was only 100 million cu metres, the net loss was then 124 million cu metres. Today it is obviously worse.

Mr Davies's recommendations have had to take into account that in practice none of the emirates would be prepared to hand over total control of their water supplies to a federal authority. Having considered a variety of measures, ineloding towing icebergs and shipping or piping flood water from the Indus in Pakistan, the American team has put forward a package of proposals which, apart from being the cheapest, would probably offer the greatest flexibility.

It established that the only significant waste of rain water was in two areas—at Wadi Bih, in Ras al Khaymah, and Wadi Ham, in Fujayrah—where it flowed straight into the sea. Water io all other areas reached the underground aquifers naturally. It is proposed to build a dam at the mouth of each of these wadis to force water into the underground aquifers.

Open porous gravel would have to be poured into the aquifers where necessary to avoid silting, although sediment might eventually have to be removed as part of a maiotenance programme. As Mr Davis's photographic records show, storm water can lie on the sand's surface and only too quickly be lost through evaporation. High evaporation concentrates minerals and increases salinity.

Water savings of 1,700,000 cu metres a day could be made at Wadi Ham and 700,000 cu metres at Wadi Bih. Nationally, this is only a drop in the ocean—a mere 2 per cent of the country's needs. As a quicker emergency measure, wells on a grid system are planned near the sea at Wadi Bih, where the Ruler of Ras al Khaymah, Shaikh Saqr bin Mohammed al Qasimi, has shown his concern by building a temporary dyke to retaio some of the water otherwise lost.

Studies based on 1975 consumption figures show that 150m cu metres of new water is oeeded to prevent the central plain from turning into wasteland. Even the most careful cooservation of existing resources would give it a life of oo more than 20 years.

Io additioa the main urban areas of Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah and Ras al Khaymah would require desalination plants. One is already in operation in Abu Dhabi with plans for more and for supplies to be piped as far as Al Ain. Dubai bas one uoder construction at Jebel Ali and Sharjah has one on the drawing board. Ras al Khaymah also has its own plans for conservation.

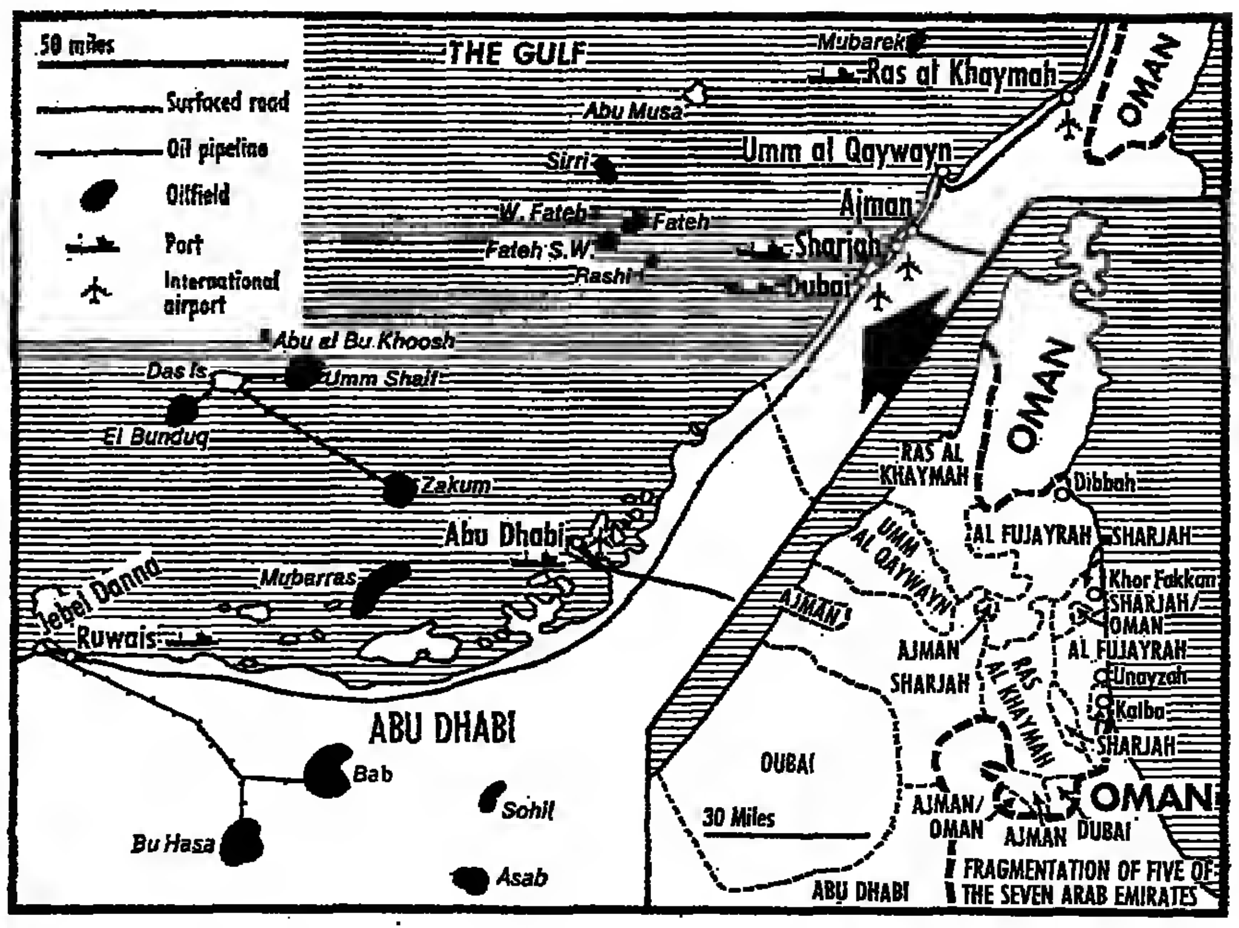
The main proposal is a massive desalioation plant at Dibbah in the mountainous area north of Fujayrah close to the Omani border. This project would incorporate a reservoir that would store a quarter of the nation's annual demands of water and an extensive piping system that would enable supplies to be run either into the aquifers in the central plain or direct to the urban areas. Supplies could be adjusted daily to cope with peak periods or the seasonal demands of crops. Individual emirates would have a partial degree of control over their own needs, a strategic oeed in emergencies.

Dibbah was a natural choice. The sea water near by is less salty than The Gulf's; brine disposal and the prospect for freshwater imports are both made easier by the deep offshore water at this point. A power plant would form part of the same operation to make good use of the excess heat generated by the desalination process. For loog-term planning the consultants suggest ouclear fuels rather than oil.

Mr Obeid Karki, the director of the Soil and Water Department in the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, would like to see a federal water authority equipped with adequate powers to control drilling throughout the UAE. He feels too that a sensible policy on water oeeds and conservation can be worked out only in conjunction with a comprehensive agricultural strategy. At present the only federal project in this sector is an experimental farm at Digdada run in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization.

No official costings of the American plan have been released but estimates suggest that over seven years it could reach $1,200m. People in remote areas still talk of the days of poverty before the oil when a family would kill to preserve its rights over a waterhole and thereby safeguard its own survival.

The main stumbling-block will not, however, be raisiog the money, but the political one of persuading the seven rulers not only that the crisis point has arrived but that they must agree on joint action now before it is too late. Past experience suggests there is little hope of this prospect being fulfilled.



A desalination plant in Abu Dhabi, capable of producing two million gallons a day. Right, an Indian at work in a pumpkin field belonging to the Fujayrah Farms Company, near Dibbah.

Banks need strong central authority

by Rodney Wilson

No one in the United Arab Emirates can complain of a lack of banking facilities, as along the waterfroot of the creek of Dubai, or in the centre of Abu Dhabi, every other building appears to be a bank. The seven emirates together boast more banks a 1,000 people than any other country in the Middle East.

This proliferation of banking has, of course, been a consequence of the oil revenue in the emirates, and it is not surprising that banks are attracted in large oumbers to a country which eojoys the highest income a head in the world, greater even than that of the United States. The banking boom of the past few years has, however, been a mixed blessing in many ways, and in particular it has proved extremely difficult for the authorities of this young federation to exercise adequate control over financial practices.

The United Arab Emirates Currency Board, which was founded five years ago to act as central banker, bas tried hard to ensure that proper banking standards are maintained, but its task has been far from easy, not least because of the speed with which new develnpments occurred in the aftermath of the 1974 oil price increases. The board's problems in exercising effective control were further accentuated by the fact that the emirares are a loose federation, rather than a closely integrated state where economic decision making was fully centralized.

With such an expansion of banking activity, some financial failures seemed inevitable. These came last year, and not surprisingly it was two small fringe banks which were affected, the Janata Bank, which was owned by the Central Bank of Bangladesh, and the Ajman Arab Bank, which was locally incorporated in the UAE. These failures were well publicized, which undoubtedly undermined financial confidence, as many economic observers believed that the banking bnbble had finally burst.

The affairs of the two banks were such that the Government decided not to act as lender of the last resort and protect the public's money. However, this resulted in considerable controversy, both in banking circles and more generally in the emirates, which culminated in the resignation of Mr Ronald Scott, the managing director of the UAE Currency Board.

This refusal to act as lender of the last resort placed the currency board in an invidious position, and cousequently after the departure of Mr Scott, nobody seemed keen to take on the managing director's job. The currency board's main problem was that many expected it to act as a fully fledged central bank, but it lacked both the power and the staff to perform this function.

At the time of its creation in 1973, it would have been impossible to envisage the rapid development of the UAE as an important financial market. The board's principal task was to manage the currency issue for what was then one of the least important ecooomies in the Middle East, and at the same time maintain informal contacts with the few banks that then existed, all of which were highly respected financial institutions which required almost no supervision.

The United Arab Emirates Currency Board bas served the country well for the most part over five years, but there is now a widespread feeliog that a stronger central bank anthority is needed to manage monetary affairs. Apart from the qnestioo of control nf commercial banking activity, the need is also apparent fnr a central bank to play an active part in managing the UAE currency, the dirbam, both through exchange rate pnlicy and through control of the money supply.

The latter is particularly important in the UAE, as rates of taxation are so low that the authorities cannot use fiscal pnlicy tn control economic activity. Thus mnnetary supply policy is critical, as was apparent last year in the aftermath of the banking crisis.

Io order to restore confidence the main measures taken included increasing the ratio of deposits that commercial banks were required to bold with the currency board from 5 per ceot to 7½ per cent, while banks were not permitted to lend out amounts greater than 15 times their own assets of capital and reserves.

At the same time the rate of domestic monetary expansion slowed down coosiderably, though this was probably desirable, as had the 58 per cent increase of the 1976-77 period been sustained, inflation would certainly have become much worse.

At the end of last year, therefore, a new managing director was appointed fnr the currency board, Mr Abdul Malik al-Hamar, a UAE national with considerable financial experience. He is being assisted by Mr Denis Ferman, an International Monetary Fund expert who was sent out to the UAE last year after a government request in the aftermath of the financial crisis.

Mr al-Hamar is confident about the future, and believes that the remaining problems are now psychological and administrative, which sound management should soon overcome. Reorganization is clearly needed, and this is already being carried out by the new director. Later this year the currency board will be converted into a fully-fledged central bank if present plans go ahead, and a draft law has already been drawn up to bring this change about.

As the new Central Bank will require substantial funds if it is to support the UAE's currency effectively, under article 41 of the draft law, the federal and emirate governments will be required to deposit their dirham funds with the bank at no interest, in accordance with standard central banking practice. This is expected to arouse some opposition from individual emirates, but less controversy has been created by the articles governing commercial banking practice, which are widely viewed as necessary.

There is strong evidence that Mr al-Hamar's optimism ebour the future is justified, as the economy of the UAE is basically healthy, with substantial balance of payments surpluses likely well into the 1980s. Reports of flights of capital out of the emirates, and speculation concerning the imposition of strict controls over capital movements by the currency board, are mere mischief-making, as the dirham is regaining its strength.

In February it was revalued slightly against the dollar, and many financial observers expect further revaluations in the coming months, although with oil prices still fixed in dollars, there is a reluctance to appreciate the currency too far.

The currency board, however, felt confident enough for the first time since Mr Scott's departure tn take measures to stimulate the economy.

Meanwhile, the two banks that prompted last year's crisis are being reopened, as the Janata Bank has obtained $10m to tide it over, while the Ajman Arab Bank bas been raising funds both locally and in the United States. The financial mood has clearly changed remarkably since last year in the UAE, but the experience gained will not easily be forgotten.

Dr Wilson, of Durham University, is a specialist in Middle Eastern economics.

Investment abroad too conservative

by John Whelan

Mr Saleh Farid is a Yemeni barrister who has his own aluminium, shipping and construction interests in Abu Dhabi. Last year he agreed to pay off all the debts of a small electronics firm in Poole, Dorset, which has a staff of 17 including the founder and managing director, Mr Arthur Crump, and his wife, Anne, the marketing director.

Spectronics, which when Mr Farid stepped in had debts of £47,000, claims to be the world's first producer of a portable telex machine weighing 15lb which transmits messages between any two telephones at a speed three times that of a conventional telex.

The man from Abu Dhabi now owns 76 per cent of Spectronics and his confidence in the company is limitless. "There is no reason why it should not grow to equal—or even outstrip—the electronics giants like Philips or Siemens", be says.

Mr Farid's progress as an entrepreneur has also embraced a London firm which has for several years been producing a superior substitute for cement. But Mr Farid is untypical of the traditional UAE businessman. He is, for a start, a Yemeni though many Yemenis have obtained nationality in Abu Dhabi because of tribal connexions between the ruling family and the two Yemens.

Money in the safe, not the bank

More typical would be the suk businessman with his money in the safe rather than the bank, a future looked at in terms of real estate profits at home and little faith in paper investment.

The conservatism of the Dubai merchant community is a byword. Most of the locally-owned Dubai banks have opted for concentration on suk-style banking, with letters of credit and construction finance. It has been left to Abu Dhabi to open banks in Europe and other Arab countries.

It is difficult to judge the extent to which private UAE investment follows the pattern taken by the privy purses of the rulers and that of the few institutional investors, all based in Abu Dhabi.

The Abu Dhabi ruling family has become conspicuous of late. The Ruler's second oldest son, Shaikh Sultan bin-Zayed, is reportedly one of four Arab investors concerned in the sale of shares in a Washington bank holding group, Financial General Bankshares. By mistake, even the *Wall Street Journal* identified Shaikh Sultan as Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, a title held by his elder brother Shaikh Khalifah bin-Zayed.

The sale of shares, oddly enough, involved the Bank of Credit and Commerce International (BCCI) in which the Ruler of Abu Dhabi, Shaikh Zayed, took 10,000 of the original 50,000 shares. BCCI, which has its regional office for the Middle East in Abu Dhabi, is a link with another of the Abu Dhabi ruling family's interests—Pakistan.

BCCI draws its management largely from Pakistani banks (at Shaikh Zayed's wish, so it is said). Abu Dhabi involvement in Pakistan was more visible before the present military regime took over but Shaikh Zayed enjoys hunting there and retains several palaces. The Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) has established two joint-venture projects with Pakistan, for a refinery and a fertilizer plant, and the ties of friendship between the two countries are strong. Pakistan provides pilots for the federal defence forces' Mirages and also the best squash players in the UAE.

The Abu Dhabi Investment Authority, which has taken over from the former Abu Dhabi Investment Board, is the institution which manages the investment of surplus oil revenues, apart from what goes into the privy purse. In practice the changa has meant little. The authority is advised by several foreign banks.

Its investment portfolios are distributed among equities, mainly Wall Street bonds (mostly double and triple A corporate issues) and property. The largest property holding is the £36m stake in the Commercial Union building in London but the property portfolio is slender.

The investment authority has created a merchant banking arm called the Abu Dhabi Investment Company, in which the National Bank of Abu Dhabi has a stake, and is acting for both the authority and the Ruler's office. The company has been active since starting in May last year.

An insight into investment policy came recently from a former member of the investment board, Mr John Morrell, who is a director of Robert Fleming Holdings. "In spite of press reports to the contrary, official Arab investment authorities are extremely conservative in their outlook",
"This expresses it preference for cas bank, bonds with a yield, and from tin a flirtation with g It is understandab them equities app highly speculative, ing as they do on s demand."

The task of adv Mr Fleming has years been that of persuade the Ar unless they drop servatism there wi long term, be poor

Reputation failing to delive

The disclosures buldings in the Uni dom which resulted Companies Act 1976 surprises as rega UAE. There was nc the scale of the K vestmant Office's ho Guardian Royal E Trafalgar House ments, Legal & Ge the Bank of Scotlan

The United King long been the de Arab investors and no evidence to sug sterling has been purchased by UAE institutions in any during the past 12 The corporate sect reputation for fa deliver the goods Gulf which prob plains why there ar Saleh Farids.

There is an obvi est in Japan, broug by the success of consumer produc there is not much evidence of Ab money going east, because the cultur too great.

Recent reports that UAE busines starting to take pa legislation more In Abu Dhabi what the 51 per cent rul by a local man ha of a joint venture, in force for son though even in Al many exceptions a One of the motive that legislation is the local entreprer a more active inter business.

But in the UAE where, there ar which money will As Mr Morrell c Fleming was told l ber of the Abu Dh family: "We w the whole of the from the Upper Z field (offshore in for the River Th

The author is on th the Middle East Digest.

The emirates have proved a unifying force in Middle East oil councils *in the crisis precipitated by the present world slump.*
Roger Vielvoye, Energy Correspondent of "The Times", looks at their relations with the other oil producers and at the National Oil Company and foreign interests

Moderate influence used to head off crisis in Opec camp

The rich and powerful Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) is going through ooe of the most difficult periods in its eventful 21-year history. Its ability to manipulate world oil prices bas been restrained temporarily by a prolonged slump in demand for crude combined with the advent of new sources of oil from non-member sources, mainly the North Sea and Alaska.

At the same time the value of the dollar, the currency in whicb world oil prices are calculated, has declined, brioging financial problems to many of the 13 member states, particularly those with ambitious iodustrialization plaos.

Througbout the official and private discussioos that have taken place over the past few months io various attempts to prevent these difficulties shattering the brittle unity of tbe organization, the UAE bas remained firmly in the moderete camp that favours holding prices steady, taking a coosidered view of the dollar's problems, and waiting until tbe world market for oil picks up and restores Opec to its previous position.

At all these meetings. the UAE is represented by Dr Maneb Said al Oteiba from Abu Dhabi. At most of the regular Opec conferences since the 1973-74 supply crisis aod embargo on exports to the United States and The Netherlands, Abu Dhabi has lined up behind Saudi Arabia in promoting the view that drastic oil price increases that damage the economies of the Western industrial couotries ultimately rebound on developing oatioos trying to establish their own industries.

On a number of occasioos, Dr Oteiba has, io advance of importaot policy-making meetiogs, held ioformal talks with Shaikh Abmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi oil minister, to discuss the best strategy for persuading other Opec ministers to adopt similar views. Most ootable of these meetings took place before the pre-Christmas ministerial conference in 1976 whicb resulted in Saudi Arabia and the UAE splitting with the remaining 11 members over prices.

While the majority put up their 1977 prices by 10 per cent, the two Gulf states made smaller—5 per cent—increases that triggered a complex two-tiered pricing system for oil that took almost six months of behiod-the-scenes bargaioing to abolish.

Throughout 1977 the hard reality of the world oil glut has brought other members of the organization into the moderate camp. Slowly there bas been a realization that continually raising prices wben demand for oil is increasing very slowly can only depress sales even farther. At the 1977 price-fixing meeting in Caracas in December the UAE found that it *had* more than just Saudi Arabia as an ally.

But eveo with the powerful voices of Iran and Kuwait speaking in favour of bolding down prices, the conference was unable to reach a unanimous decision. In the absence of any agreement, prices remained unaltered, giving the UAE what it wanted althougb not in a particularly desirable way.

One of the topics on the Caracas agenda was the decline in the value of the dollar and its effect on members' oil revenues. The UAE supported a call for Opec's economic experts to devise new contingency plans for dealing with the dollar crisis. Although no schedule was made for producing this plan, it was generally assumed that it would be presented to the next ministerial meeting of tbe organizatioo in June.

Since theo, the further troubles of the Uoited States currency have persuaded the countries hardest bit by the declining dollar value that they cannot wait until the Juoe meeting to discuss the problems.

A number of solutions have beeo put forward peoding the recommendatioos of the Ecooomic Commissioo. These range from making a straightforward price increase—opposed by the UAE—to the reiotroductioo of a pricing system based on a basket of currencies, similar to that operated by Opec for a few months in 1973.

An informal meeting of ministers was scheduled for April 3-4 in Geoeva to discuss tbese suggestions, including the UAE's idea for a refined version of the basket of currencies system. But at the request of the Saudis the meeting was postpooed for a mooth and will not probably take place in Riyadb, the Saudi Arabian capital.

The UAE bas also been acrive in Opec circles in tbe promotioo of prodnction programming. Producing a fair way of reducing oil output *throughout* the organizatioo to bring supply into line with demand bas always been one of the loog term, bot unfulfilled objectives for dealing with the cyclical gluts of crude that put pressure on the pricing system.

Abu Dhabi, which does not have tbe financial worries of some members, bas made its own attempt at production programming by a 15 per ceot reduction in the maximum amount of oil that can be lifted from its on and offshore field this year. With the glut lasting much longer than anyooe in the organization would have dared to forecast, there is oow growing interest in the idea. *But* as long as Saudi Arabia is prepared to allow its output to bob up and down in line with world demand there is little incentive for other countries to make aoy serious sacrifices.

Although Dr Oteiba speaks at Opec meetings oo bebalf of all the Emirates, the stance he takes is oot always greeted with unanimous approval at home. When UAE joined Saudi Arabia in the two-tiered pricing split, there was oo public criticism from Dubai; but it was ooticeable that prices for Dubai crude went up by oearly 10 per ceot in line with the majority of Opec members.

Sayed Maneb Said al Oteiba, Minister for Petroleum and Mineral Resources, with two of his nine children.

Night view of Das Island, off which oil was first discovered 20 years ago. The island, where oil is collected by undersea pipeline, has dock facilities for tankers up to 200,000 tons.

Growing concern about oil under-exploitation

To an oilman, the signs of the glut in the world oil market are plain to see. At every stage of the industry's chain from productioo to transportation, refining and marketiog, the complex macbinery established by the international oil compaoies is working well below capacity.

Parts of some oilfields are shut down; surplus tankers are being mothballed and those still in commissioo steam slowly to save fuel; refioeries are running at ooly 60 to 70 per ceot of capacity, and in tbe market place demaod is sluggish and competition cut-throat.

Amid all *this gloom*, a decision by ooe of the leading members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) to reduce the ceiling on its production aod make a small but welcome dent in the world crude oversupply should have been greeted with enthusiasm. But wbeo the Abu Dhabi Governmeot stated last November that there would be a 15 per cent cut in tbe allowable productioo for 1978, the announcement was received in stunoed sileoce by the international oil compaoies that still operate the country's oilfields both oo and offshore.

Throughout the months preceding tbe November anoouncement the oil companies' negotiations on the production ceiliog had centred on an increase in oil output to give the new gas processing plant on Das Island additional gas supplies produced in association with oil mainly from the Umm Sbaif field.

Instead, the Government fixed the ceiling at 1,350,000 barrels a day, a 15 per cent drop on the 1,575,000 barrels a day for 1977. Tbe Abu Dhabi Government is clearly worried about the future of some of its fields, particularly Umm Shaif, and sees lower production from tbe late 1970s as ao assurance of extended operation of the fields towards the eod of the century.

Measures like the suddeo cut in the productioo ceiling also reflect the uncertainties felt within the Abu Dhabi National Oil Co (ADNOC) about the lack of serious new exploration both oosbore and offshore. If there was greater knowledge about the size of the ultimately recoverable reserves then there would be no oeed for restrictioos, the state company argues.

On a number of occasioos Dr Maoeh Said al Oteiba, the Abu Dhabi oil minister, bas hioted to the companies that control the two major concessions bolders—Abu Dhabi Marine Areas and Abu Dbabi Petroleum Co—that unless the rate of exploratioo is stepped up considerably, they might find that all undeveloped parts of their coocessioos will revert to the Governmeot.

Abu Dbabi is the ooly major producer in The Gulf that bas not taken complete cootrol of its natiooal oil industry or announced its intention to do so. The Government stake in the two operatiog companies rests at 60 per cent and there are no immediate plans to acquire the remaining 40 per cent from the compauies.

But as the companies bave pointed out to their majority state industry partners in a time of economic depression and small anoual increases in demand *for oil, it is difficult to make* a case for spending money to fiod more oil to add to the surplus.

Not unnaturally this contention is not well received by the Abu Dhabi Government and has led to other companies being brought io from outside the two main coosortia to develop reservoirs that, on the international companies' calculations, do not warrant immediate exploitation.

One of the prime examples of the reluctance of the large companies to exploit oew fields on wbat they claim are unfavourable terms from the Government is the development of the Upper Zakum field. It was discovered offsbore by ADMA and part of the reservoir has been put into production. Output is running at 50,000 barrels a day and is piped to Das Island where it is mixed with crude from the Lower Zakum field near by.

But *ADNOC* wanted to spend £2,000m to £3,000m on expanding the output of the field to 350,000 barrels a day by 1982 and 500,000 barrels a day by 1984. The ambitious development schedule required the construction of a new tanker terminal at Zirka Island about 40 miles east of the field.

The ADMA group, led by British Petroleum and including Compagnie Française des Pétroles, declined to join in the development plans. However, CFP agreed to oversee the project as a contractor without an equity interest and at tbe last minute the Japan Oil Development Co (*Jodco*) and ooe of the equity partoers io ADMA decided to exercise its right of a 12 per cent stake in the field.

Jodco bought part of BP's stake in the ADMA consortium just before the Goveroment begao its moves to gain state participation, and bas again gone outside the *grouping* to make an equity investmeot with the state oil company in the Umm Addalkh field. CFP has taken oo another field development—Sath al Raazboot—oo a fee basis and also gained special terms for developiog the marginal Abu al Bukhoosh field.

Onshore the oil company partners *in* the *ADPC* also declioed to take part in the state company's $1,200m plaos to gather surplus gas liquids from the oosbore fields and export it as three million tons of liquid petroleum gases and two million toos of gas condeosate. Again the dispute was over terms for the developmeot.

Since the initial dispute, three of the partners, Shell, CFP and Partex, bave agreed to take part in the project and bave been giveo the option to iocrease their boldings to a total of 32 per cent from tbe present 21 per cent stake.

Oil—black gold—is the key to power in the federal administration. Frank Frazer, energy correspondent of *The Scotsman*, charts progress made in the search for new sources by the less affluent emirates

Many companies compete to drill for wealth

The prolific flow of oil from the major fields in the Abu Dhabi and Dubai territories has tended to overshadow oil company activity in the five other shaikhdoms within the United Arab Emirates.

So far only Sharjah, which claims jurisdiction over the sector of The Gulf east of the Dubai offshore concession area, has achieved any significant income from oil as a result of the development of the Mubarek field which was discovered in 1972.

Production levels of up to 70,000 barrels a day have been reported from the discovery which was put on stream in 1974. More recently output had declined to 20,000 barrels a day but the emirate is hoping for an added boost to income as a result of drilling taking place in its sector of the Gulf of Oman. There Reserve Oil and Gas has a licence at an onshore concession west of the Hajjar mountains where Pinnacle Petroleum of Houston is operating.

The Mubarek field is a limestone reservoir in geological zones of the Upper and Middle Cretaceous age which lies off Abu Musa Island. Rights over the field are the subject of a long-standing dispute with Iran which occupied the territory on the eve of the UAE's formation.

Buttes Gas and Oil—the operating partner for a consortium which includes Ashland, Skelly, Kerr McGee, Cities Services and Juniper Petroleum—has made arrangements to pay production bonuses to Iran in addition to those payable to Sharjah. The neighbouring emirate of Umm al Qaywayn also claims a share of the field.

Indeed, the companies' rights to produce oil from the Mubarek discovery has been challenged in a series of actions filed in United States courts by Occidental Petroleum which claims that the area was originally awarded to it by Umm al Qaywayn.

Umm al Qayweyn has been the scene of other exploration activity during the past two years. Onshore drilling has been carried out by Houston Oil and Minerals which has concessions on the mainland and on the island of Falaj al-Mualla, which is an emirate dependency.

In the offshore sector a group led by Zapata has reported oil and gas flows from a location some 20 miles from the Umm al Qaywayn shore. On test a wildcat well drilled in 1976 produced 15 million cu ft of gas and 130 barrels of oil a day from one geological zone and a further 26 million cu ft of gas and 345 barrels a day of oil from a lower level. The well reached a total depth of 16,200 ft and further drilling will be needed to assess the commercial potential of the find.

Promising new areas of activity

One of the more promising areas of future activity is likely to be Ras al Khaymah which achieved a small but regular oil flow of some 6,000 barrels a day last year from a discovery made some 23 miles offshore. The field also has an exploitable associated gas content that has been tested at 17 million cu ft a day and a study is being undertaken on production facilities which would enable a greater flow of oil and gas to be achieved.

The find was originally made by the Dutch company, Virol Exploration, but last year direction of operations for the field was taken over by Deutsche Schachtbau. Another oil find has been made farther offshore 15 miles from the Mubarek field. This is thought to form part of the same structure as the discovery made by Elf Aquitaine at Henjam on the Iran-Oman offshore boundary.

Ras al Khaymah, which at present depends almost exclusively on agriculture, is keen to achieve a regular income from oil exports as a means of modernizing its farming industry.

To ensure state involvement in the oil activity, the emirate has set up its own oil company to participate in projects being undertaken by the foreign operators which have been given concessions.

At present a multinational array of companies hold permits to undertake exploration in Ras al Khaymah territory. They include Deminex, the West German government-supported consortium, and Weeks Natural Resources, a United States company. Others involved in the search for oil and gas in the emirates are Canadian Superior, Clovelly Oil, Asamera Oil, United Refining, Kewanee and Sunlite International.

Al Fujayrah is another of the emirates where there has been recent interest in oil and gas prospects. A consortium headed by Reserve Oil and Gas has used a drill ship to assess an area some 12 miles offshore in the Gulf of Oman where water depths are about 300 ft.

For all of the smaller emirates, the possibilities of developing oil and gas reserves have considerable political and economic attraction. Under the terms of federation, each shaikhdom retains control over its natural resources and is entitled to the revenues derived from commercial exploitation.

The income can give an emirate a measure of independence in devising a development programme instead of being totally dependent on the handouts from Abu Dhabi, the richest of UAE partners, which in past has provided about per cent of the fede budget. Recent indicati suggest that this is not state of affairs that A Dhabi would like to continuing indefinitely.

A drilling platform off the coast of Sharjah. Top: the glossy face of wealth. The owner appears dwarfed his Cadillac in Umm al Qaywayn.

Frank Frazer discusses the technological advantages that North Sea oilmen have gained from the UAE. Jeremy Landor explains why there are obstacles to cooperation with Britain

Northern development learns from experience in The Gulf

s sometimes supposed the technology which gone into North Sea oil ...ation was imported ...ly from the Gulf of ...a where the industry began exploring coastal ...s some 50 years ago.

...g experience subse...ly gained in The Gulf, ...ularly the develop...g off Abu Dhabi, have made a significant con...n to the develop...s which have occurred ...g the 1970s on the ...d Kingdom continental ...

...important link in the ...ology transfer process ...been British Petroleum ...has played a promin...art in the development ...Abu Dhabi's offshore ...es as well as being ...neering company in ...ercial-scale oil and gas ...ction from the United ...om sector of the North ...

...re are marked con... between the condi... facing an offshore ...or in The Gulf and ...experienced in the ...Sea. Water depths in The Gulf tend to be less than 150ft compared with more than 600ft encountered in the northern sector of the present North Sea oil province.

More important from the oilfield development point of view, the maximum wave heights likely to be encountered in even freak storm conditions in The Gulf are just a quarter of 100ft wave criterion that has to be allowed for in designing structures to withstand North Sea conditions.

Nevertheless the discovery in 1958 and subsequent development of the Umm Shaif oilfield some 50 miles from the Abu Dhabi coastline presented BP with an opportunity to gain experience in the development of a major offshore oilfield in advance of the discovery of commercial quantities of oil in the more harrowing environment of the North Sea.

Before the Abu Dhabi state company took a 60 per cent controlling interest, BP was the majority partner in the Abu Dhabi Marine Areas consortium which began exploration in the 12,000sq mile concession zone during the 1950s.

The Umm Shaif field covers an area of about 130 sq miles and yields oil from three separate geological zones at depths varying from 5,700 ft. to 9,800 ft. The field development programme is said by BP to be a fairly typical example of offshore production operations. It involves 36 wells grouped in twos and threes to drain various parts of the field. The output from each group of wells is fed into flowlines which take the oil to a central collecting platform from which the supply flows through an under-sea pipeline to the Das Island terminal some 20 miles away.

Incorporated in the system is a series of safety controls designed to shut off the flow from any part of the field or even the entire installation in event of pressure irregularities in any of the wells. Preset valves on wellheads and at the central collection platform are designed to close automatically when specified limits are exceeded but they can also be closed by radio link from the central control room at Das Island which also has the ability to vary the production rate of some of the wells by sending radio signals to choke valves operated by motors.

Such control and safety techniques, now used extensively in North Sea oil operations, were also incorporated into development programmes for the Zakum oilfield, the second major discovery made in the Abu Dhabi Marine Areas' concession zone. It lies some 55 miles from Das Island to which the oil is also sent by pipeline.

Over the next few years the fields are expected to yield further important pointers to North Sea technology as a result of efforts to offset declining natural pressure in the oil reservoirs by the installation of water injection equipment.

BP's London-based projects division was responsible for the £150m water injection scheme recently installed at Umm Shaif and said to be the largest scheme of its type in the world. Studies have shown that to maintain oil output at 390,000 barrels a day, it will eventually be necessary to inject into the reservoir some 700,000 barrels a day of seawater which has been treated to remove marine particles.

The company's other major involvement in Abu Dhabi has been concerned with the construction of Das Island terminal. The island, one and a quarter miles long and three quarters of a mile wide, was chosen as the location for processing and shipment of oil from Umm Shaif. Initially facilities were required to stabilize the crude oil by removing associated gas and the high hydrogen sulphide content.

In the late 1960s, however, it became clear that there was scope for expanding the facilities to allow the export of the associated gas fractions in liquefied form to the new market that was emerging in Japan. A company was set up to undertake the project and BP, as well as being one of the participants, was given responsibility for acting as overall coordinator for the scheme.

The problems of coping with an island site which required the import of all materials, supplies and labour was undoubtedly useful experience for BP staff who were subsequently transferred to undertake similar duties at the Sullom Voe project in Shetland. Just about the time construction work on Das Island was nearing completion, BP took over responsibility for the Shetland scheme which is eventually expected to handle about half the total North Sea oil output on behalf of a consortium of companies.

The type of processing plant involved is similar in each case. Oil delivered to the terminals by pipeline needs to be stabilized by the removal of associated gas before being stored for transport by tanker. The associated gases require separation into individual products like methane, propane and butane which can be liquefied and reduced in volume by refrigeration techniques before being transported to markets by gas-carrying tankers.

Because of the logistical problems of undertaking a major construction problem in Shetland, BP has arranged to have as much as possible of the fabrication work carried out elsewhere in the United Kingdom and shipped to the islands for installation. A similar arrangement was adopted during the construction phase of the Das Island scheme when the prefabrication was carried out in Abu Dhabi city.

During the next two years BP will also be adopting a system of offshore tanker loading developed in The Gulf to the deeper and stormier conditions encountered in the North Sea.

The development programme for the Buchan oilfield, recently approved by the Department of Energy, involves the use of a single point mooring buoy anchored near the field. This system, similar to the tanker loading facilities off Das Island, has the advantage that it enables the vessel to approach from any direction and to move around the loading point as dictated by tide and current while loading continues.

...eaving a school in Abu Dhabi. It is harder for them to enter university in Britain than in America.

A colonial past affects cooperation today

150 years of British ...l domination and six ...of independence, rela... between the United ...mirates and the coun...ich one controlled its ...are suffering from all ...ntradictions resulting ...uch a history.

...e between the two ...es is booming, so that ...glance it would be ...d that cooperation in ...department was deve...at the same rate. Un...tely, although rela...e on the whole excel...here is considerable ...coordination on the ...of the UAE, particu...in education and ...al training, and the ...to which Britain is ...to cooperate in order ...to fulfil these needs. ...main achievement of ...E-British Joint Com...meeting held in Abu ...a few weeks ago, and ...d by Mr Frank Judd, ...r of State for Foreign ...was to improve visa ...s for British business ...travelling to the UAE. ...story of visa arrange... between Britain and ...E is something of a ...case, typical of the ...suspicion and mis...anding on both sides ...s largely responsible ...shortcomings in bi...relations.

...e time of indepen... Britain wanted to make a reciprocal visa agreement with the UAE but the latter refused, considering this to be too much like a swift change to the neo-colonial hat. Besides, the UAE wanted to feel at one with its Arab brothers and undergo equal scrutiny when applying for entry into Britain.

However, two years ago the UAE expressed a willingness to reconsider its position, but by this time the British had grown suspicious of UAE naturalization policy, wary that a Palestinian with intentions not wholly honourable towards the British and their allies would slip through the net on a UAE passport. It has taken until this year for the British to reassure themselves.

Apart from this belated success, the joint committee seems to have achieved very little, although those who took part said they experienced a feeling of well-being in the warm and friendly atmosphere. The imbalance remains between Britain, which sells a large percentage of its exports to the Middle East and the UAE (particularly since 1973 when exports to the Middle East decreased on the whole, but increased proportionately to the UAE). The emirates are desperately in need of training facilities and other technical help which the British Government is willing to provide. The obstacles to righting the balance remain insurmountable.

A notable absentee from the joint committee meeting was the Director General of Technical Education at the UAE Ministry of Education, Mr Salim Ghamai, who had been expected to attend. As a result of his absence educational cooperation was hardly touched on, although UAE officials hope that one day Britain will find a way to accepting more than the shrinking sprinkling of UAE students in Britain (only 214 at the moment).

There is a stalemate over the refusal of British higher education establishments to accept the UAE secondary school certificate as being worth more than O levels, and often not even that. If a UAE student wants to enter British higher education she or he must spend three to four years qualifying, and even then there is no guarantee of a place. As a result, UAE students go to the United States instead where they can buy a place at a university after only a year's bridging course. Other UAE students, apart from the 300 or 400 who have got places at the new Al-Ain University, take courses in Egypt, Kuwait or other Arab countries, among them Iraq.

Most graduates are pushed into the civil service with qualifications in commerce, banking, accountancy, office management and the like, but they are not replacing the huge number of expatriates who run the economy, because the scale of recruitment of foreigners far outstrips the training of UAE nationals, and the choices made by UAE students in further education are not always useful to an economy striving for industrialization.

Of the 58 graduates from foreign universities in 1977 most of the 19 who were at Egyptian universities graduated in commerce, those from Kuwait in arts subjects. In addition, Al-Ain University has no facilities for teaching engineering or medicine, the latter being one of the most valued skills and the most tightly closed in Britain—two places have been offered at Dublin, but not yet taken up.

The government agency in Britain which works for the sort of educational cooperation that would make UAE-British relations better is the British Council, but it, too, has had difficulties.

In 1969 the British Council opened a regional centre in Dubai. It seemed a harmless enough decision at the time, but as the federal capital turned out to be Abu Dhabi it made liaison with the federal government difficult. Only last year was a centre opened in Abu Dhabi.

Another bad miscalculation, but one for which nobody could be blamed, and illustrating once again the knife-edge sensitivity of such dealings, happened when the UAE Government asked for an estimate of the cost for seconding a British official to run the government language training school in Abu Dhabi. The estimate, which the British Council says was comprehensive, was thought by the UAE Government to be far too high, so another opportunity came to nothing. Thus, there are no British teachers on contract to the UAE and Britain has not been approached to help with the new university project (Unesco is providing assistance).

Cooperation in other spheres such as health is advancing slowly. The UAE Health Minister was in Britain recently to examine the possibility of a twinning arrangement between the UAE and the South Western Area Health Authority, and British-trained doctors work in the Emirates. The reason for this comparative success has something to do with competing for contracts with new hospitals in the offing. The UAE has paid for a new liver research unit at King's College Hospital, in London, which will be ready in 1979. Liver cancer is common in the Middle East and there would be little point in setting up such a unit in the UAE where skilled staff are lacking.

As regards defence, Britain has done little better than provide a few armoured cars and officers up to the rank of unit commander. The joint committee also discussed agriculture and housing, but they are not much more than a glimmer on the cooperation front.

Immigrants make up the large majority of the emirates' population. Dr Stace Birks and Dr Clive Sinclair, who are working on a migration research survey at the Department of Economics, Durham University, discuss their contributions to economic development

Traders, mainly from the Indian sub-continent, display their wares in a street in Ajman.

Movement of labour a firm tradition

Over the past decade the population of the United Arab Emirates has grown at the rate of 16 per cent a year. Much the greater proportion of this increase is due to the growth of the expatriate community. In 1968 it stood at about 66,000. Today the figure is approximately 500,000.

Expatriates make an overwhelming contribution to the workforce. In 1958, Mr Kevin Fenelon, statistical adviser to the Government, estimated that the workforce comprised 78,000 people, 43 per cent of whom were nationals. The expatriate workforce today numbers about 350,000, most of whom are found in Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Sharjah.

The ethnic mix among expatriates who were drawn in to fill the growing number of jobs in the early 1970s was familiar. Many Omanis and Beduin who lived in south-east Arabia were attracted to the towns of Abu Dhabi and Dubai, where they worked as guards, policemen, drivers and construction workers. Most of the more qualified Arab expatriates came from traditional labour suppliers, such as the Levantine countries, Egypt and Sudan. Many Yemenis arrived in the emirates to work as labourers.

After 1973 the pace and scale of economic development transformed. Not only were Abu Dhabi's oil revenues higher but, in the interests of federal development, a higher proportion found their way into the exchequers of other emirates. Government spending and projects, therefore, expanded rapidly.

Just as the labour demands in the emirates were increasing, so were those of the other peninsula states, including Oman. Suddenly, Arab countries which, up to 1973, were exporting labour, themselves experienced shortages of manpower. Thus the emirates' traditional sources of labour ran dry, and to meet the ever-growing demand of the economy for labour, the emirates turned to the Indian subcontinent.

Today even the most casual observer cannot fail to notice the concentration of Indians and Pakistanis in the expatriate community. Dubai's long-standing trading links with Asia in valuable minerals have no doubt been instrumental in encouraging the presence of so many Asians.

Ministry of Labour figures give support to this view on a more scientific basis. They suggest that Asians account for between two thirds and three quarters of the workforce. Arabs, on the other hand, account for only about a fifth of expatriate employment.

At first inspection this appears curious; in the Middle East, large-scale labour migration is now an established tradition, especially from countries such as Egypt, Jordan, Oman, North Yemen, and to a lesser extent, Sudan, Syria and Tunisia. Moreover, the federation actively encourages Arab migrant workers, preferring them to Asians, not surprisingly in view of the common linguistic and cultural background.

Close analysis of the labour markets of these countries reveals that their supply of Arab labour is much less elastic than is generally believed, and additional supplies are particularly limited. Moreover, the supply price of Arabs is generally higher than that of Asians. Since the vast majority of employment in the emirates is controlled by private entrepreneurs, this difference in cost is significant. The minimum wage paid to an Asian labourer is about 25 dirhams a day, at which rate large numbers are prepared to come forward.

In contrast to the pattern of Arab migration to the emirates which typically occurs on an ad hoc and individual basis, the migration of labour from the East has been, and is, organized.

The Asian connexion has two aspects of regularization: agents in India and Pakistan recruit and screen potential migrants, while their counterparts, labour brokers in the emirates, contract to supply quantities of labour of specific skills. The selection procedure used to screen applicants in places such as Bombay consists of medical examinations, literacy tests and on-the-spot trade tests.

The Asian connexion was remarkable for its rapidity of development and its degree of complexity. The result is that Asian labour is available, skilled to particular levels and relatively cheap, and so appeals to the entrepreneurs in the emirates.

The employment generated by a new phase of industrial development is likely to be considerable. Three projects alone will employ about 100,000 people. Almost all of these will be migrant labourers. It is difficult to envisage the numbers additional to these who will be necessary to service the industrial areas. In The Gulf there are several examples of the extrinsic, and often unforeseen, responsibilities for the Government that are associated with migrant workers.

A recent labour market development in The Gulf has stemmed from the awarding of contracts for these large projects: the advent of Far Eastern construction companies with their work camps. This is of considerable relevance to manpower planners in the emirates.

It is increasingly common for a contract to be awarded to a Far Eastern company which agrees to provide an entire workforce of its own nationals. Typically these workers—Koreans, Malays, Thais and Filipinos—are single men, who live away from the towns in camps where they work, eat and sleep for the duration of the project. On its termination, they return home.

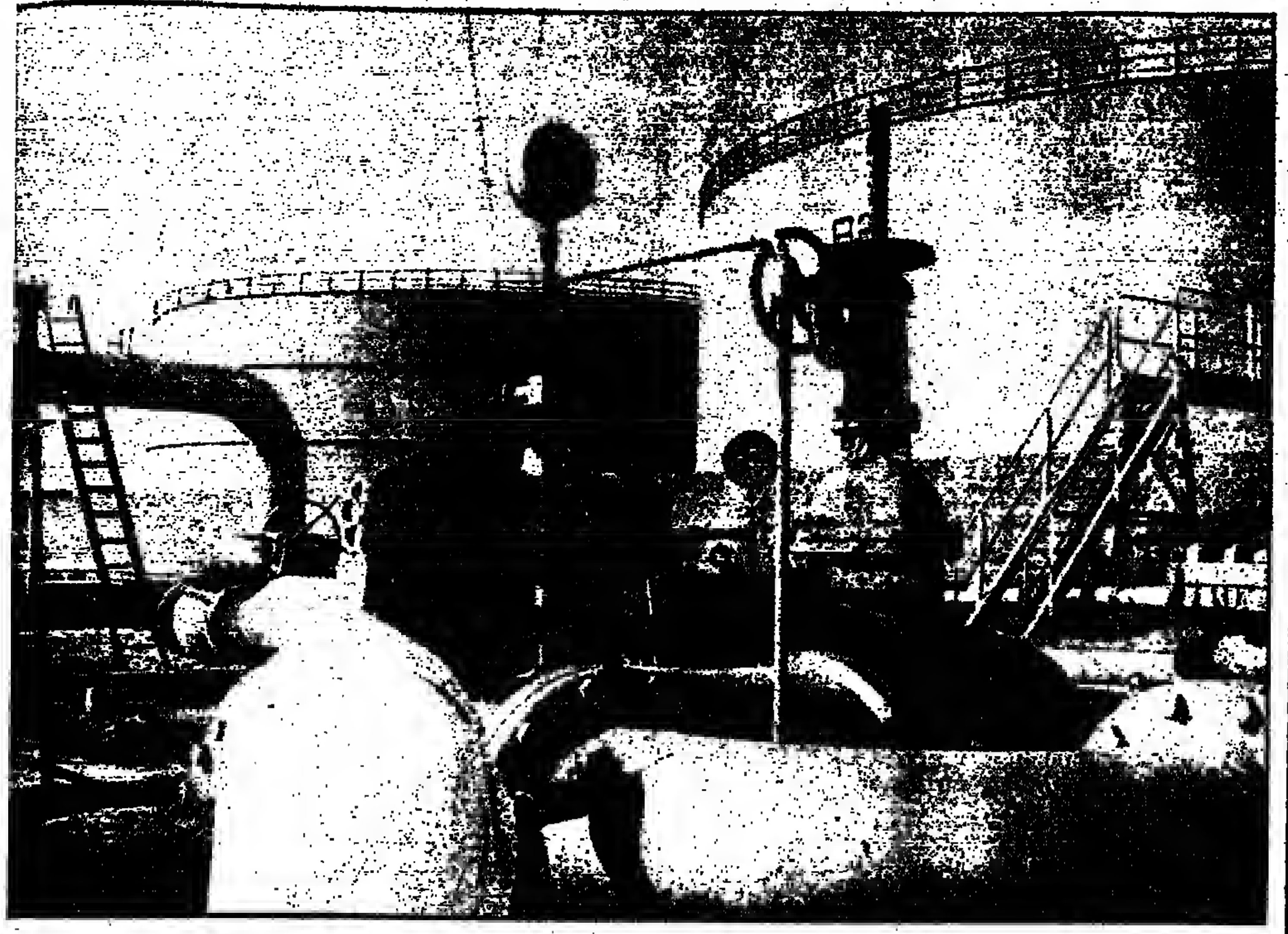
To governments of countries with small populations but immense wealth, concerned to retain a distinct national identity, to preserve the traditional values and way of life, and yet, at the same time, to develop their countries, the "work camp" approach of the oriental companies has many advantages.

The best-known example in The Gulf, the Bahrain dry-dock, was executed by Koreans. Thais, Filipinos and other Far Eastern nationalities are also working in The Gulf on this basis.

It may be that, by employing Orientals' services and approach to large-scale projects, the UAE could resolve objectives which until the present have appeared in conflict: economic and industrial development concurrent with the preservation of a distinctive culture and identity.

هكذا من الأصل

Misfortunes have clouded gas-processing developments on Das Island. Roger Vielvoye charts their first year's progress



land: oil gases being burnt and, top, operator : controls of bunker storage tanks.

From rocks to riches

Before the oil companies discovered and developed Abu Dhabi's rich offshore oil reserves, Das Island was a barren uninhabited lump of rock sitting in The Gulf about 70 miles off the coast of Abu Dhabi. The oilmen first moved on to the rocky island to build a tanker terminal to handle oil from the Umm Shaif, Zakum and Bunduq fields.

Then in the early 1970s the consortium of international oil companies that make up the Abu Dhabi Marine Areas (ADMA) consortium began talks with the Government about ending the wasteful flaring of gas produced in association with offshore oil, particularly from the large Umm Shaif field. These talks culminated in the formation of an Anglo-French-Japanese consortium to build another plant on Das Island, this time to liquefy the gas before it was shipped to Japan in special tankers.

The partners in the project (Abu Dhabi National Oil Co 51 per cent, British Petroleum 16.33 per cent, Compagnie Française des Pétroles 8.17 per cent, Mitsui and Co 22.05 per cent, Bridgestone Liquefied Gas Company 2.45 per cent) have invested $565m in a project capable of turning 530 million cu ft a day of natural gas into an annual total of two million tons of liquid natural gas, a million tons of liquid petroleum gases (butane and propane), 220,000 tons of condensate and 230,000 tons of sulphur pellets. The plant was largely designed by BP and was built by the American Bechtel Corporation and Chyoda Chemical Engineering of Japan.

However, the first year of operation has not been particularly auspicious. Gas processing began last April and the official inauguration by the Ruler, Shaikh Zayed bin Sultan al Nahayan, took place in October. Shortly afterwards hairline cracks were discovered in some of the stainless steel pipework and half the plant had to be closed while the faults were rectified. Work is now complete and this section of the plant is being recommissioned.

During this recommissioning work, new problems were discovered that shut the entire operation. A leak in one of the plant's two 150,000 cu metre storage tanks was responsible. The shut-down lasted about a month and by the beginning of June, it is hoped, all units will be back to producing at full capacity.

Teething troubles are common in lng plants and the heat, high humidity and extremely salty atmosphere make the Das Island plant more vulnerable than most. During the repairs, deliveries of gas to the Tokyo Electric Co, which has contracted to buy all the lng at a projected total cost of about $6,000m over the 20-year life of the contract were cut by half and lpg and condensate deliveries were also affected. Sales of sulphur have not yet begun as the management team is concentrating on getting the lng streams running properly.

Starting problems have not been confined to the engineering aspects. The BP-led management team had been expecting to receive the gas associated with 390,000 barrels a day of oil production from the Umm Shaif field. Then in November, at the height of the engineering problems at the plant, the Government announced a lower oil production ceiling for 1978.

Until that statement the companies operating both onshore and offshore Abu Dhabi had been expecting a small rise in the ceiling. Instead, they were ordered to reduce overall production by 15 per cent. Included in this figure was a cut in the Umm Shaif output from 390,000 barrels a day to 275,000 barrols a day. The Umm Shaif cutback was particularly severe and reflected government concern about the long-term prospects for the field after an adverse technical report on the extent of the reserves and the state of the submarine reservoir.

Without the full quantities of Umm Shaif gas, the group was forced to step up tha supplies of cap gas from the Uweihat field near by. It had always been planned to use the reserves of gas that had been found on top of the as yet undeveloped oil reservoir, but certainly not so soon in the gas exploitation cycle.

The extraction facilities on Uweihat will have to work close to their maximum throughput to ensure that the recommissioned plant will have sufficient supplies to meet its contracted deliveries. Das Island is also close to the Zakum fields and by 1981 gas from these reservoirs will start flowing into the plant for processing.

The need for safe operations of the plant was emphasized during the starting period by the devastating explosion that flattened the lpg plant and export terminal in neighbouring Qatar. Since then the whole question of the safety of this type of large site handling large quantities of highly volatile materials has been brought more clearly into focus by an explosion on an lpg train in America in the town of Waverley which caused many deaths and widespread damage.

The isolated island site removes some of the dangers posed by plants in more urban areas but on Das there is the added hazard of the gas and oil plants being in close proximity. Executives from the company have studied the report on the Qatar explosion and the entire safety of the Das installation has been rechecked in the light of these findings.

John Whelan picks his way through the maze of commercial banks

The British Bank of the Middle East, Dubai (top); Grindlays in Abu Dhabi; and, below, the National Bank of Abu Dhabi, three of the country's main financial institutions. The proliferation of banks has led to moves to establish a strong central b

Competition intense in an overbanked small community

Just how many banks there are in the United Arab Emirates is a difficult question to answer. In October the National Bank of Ras al Khaymah became the fifty-fifth bank to get a full banking licence in the UAE despite the existence of an official moratorium on the formation of new banks.

Besides the full commercial banks, only a few of which have yet to open, there are 11 licensed restricted licence banks (RLBs), a response to the offshore banking enclave in Bahrain, and 10 licensed representative offices.

In theory that makes the UAE, with a population of 862,000 on December 31, 1977 according to an estimate by the UAE statistics centre, the most overbanked community in the world. In practice the assets of the commercial banks are concentrated in the hands of the bigger banks.

The four biggest banks in mid-1977 had assets of more than 2,000m dirhams (£266m) each and together accounted for 52 per cent of the total. A similar sharp distinction existed on the deposit side where five out of the banks received 66.7 per cent of all deposits while 25 banks got only 4.8 per cent.

The predicament of the smaller banks, some of which have low capitalization, has forced them to rely heavily on the inter-bank market, somewhat erratically managed by the UAE Currency Board until recently. Many ended up borrowing short and lending long, becoming heavily overdrawn with the board. In May last year two banks, Ajman Arab and Janata Bank of Bangla Desh, closed their doors and Ajman Arab is yet to reappear. The ensuing rumours about the soundness of the banking system in general have caused heartache t. many essentially well-managed banks.

The management aspect of some of the locally incorporated banks is a touchy subject. Some managers have gone all out to build up a strong deposit base for their banks. What causes bewilderment outside Abu Dhabi and Dubai where such things appear normal is the lack of balance sheet and minimum reserve requirements or any real attempt to enforce ratios. One Dubai bank, which has foreign shareholders, has failed to produce a balance-sheet for more than two years because of heavy real estate losses.

The banking system continues to be heavily dependent on retail banking. It is hard to see how the Abu Dhabi Investment Company, the merchant banking arm of the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority, has contributed much towards diversification at home. Other investment companies, such as the Sharjah Group, have to date concentrated their work outside the UAE. The aim of licensing these companies was to mobilize domestic funds and channel them into productive investment. As yet there is little sign of the companies issuing bonds and debentures to foster the growth of a secondary market in the UAE.

In view of the short-term nature of placements it is hard to see this transition coming about. By mid-1977 only 2 per cent of time deposits—which includes saving and time deposits of residents in local and foreign currency, demand deposits of residents in foreign currency and commercial prepayments—were for more than one year, with 70 per cent placed for a period of less than six months.

The Currency Board has been meeting this situation by acting as a source of long-term finance providing "refinancing facilities" to the commercial banks.

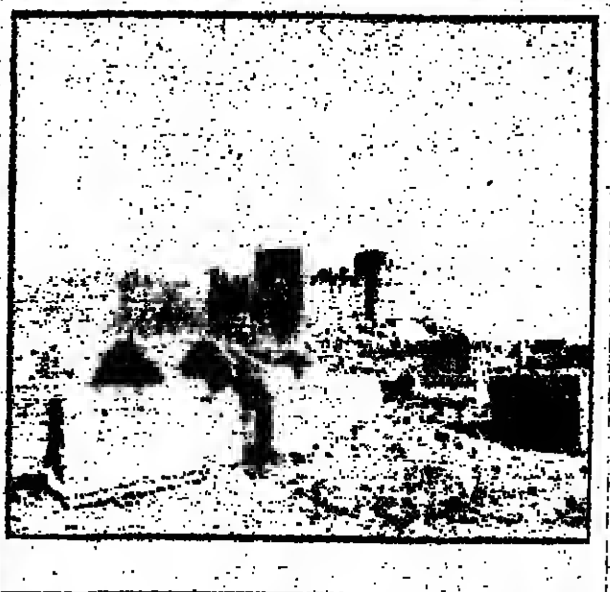
It is easy to see why the UAE has attracted so many banks. With neighbouring countries enforcing a stricter moratorium, the need for a presence in The Gulf has encouraged banks late on the scene to try the UAE; the oil revenues of Abu Dhabi in particular have acted as a magnet; some banks originally entered the UAE because of their involvement with particular schemes. The atmosphere of intense competition has inevitably given rise to greater advancement though many of the locally incorporated banks remain firmly wedded to suk banking.

The growth of banking has also been encouraged by the lack of a national economy in the UAE. The seven emirates retain a large measure of autonomy over the commercial sector. Different regulations on taxation of bank profits exist in Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Sharjah.

Traditionally the grant of a banking licence provided considerable income to a ruler—far better than royalties from postage stamps. Last year Shaikh Rashid, the Ruler of Dubai, broke the Currency Board moratorium on new banks to license two Dubai-owned banks—Emirates National Bank and the Union Bank of the Middle East. In each case the bank was owned by a powerful Dubai merchant family. In 1976 he broke the moratorium to let in Lloyds Bank International of the United Kingdom.

In October it was the turn of Shaikh Saqr, the Ruler of Ras al Khaymah. The National Bank of Ras al Khaymah, which is 10 per cent owned by Hill Samuel of the United Kingdom, was scheduled to open on March 29 incorporated by decree of the Ruler and with a licence from the Currency Board. The argument for the bank was easily understood. Shaikh Saqr felt there was a case for a national bank since Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Sharjah already had them.

The essentially introspective nature of the UAE banks is illustrated by the difficulties experienced by even reputable borrowers in raising project finance in the UAE. There has been a procession of borrowers seeking finance in the Euromarkets. A typical exercise was the ease with which the Abu Dhabi-based Abdel Jalil al Fahmi group raised $17m for a 280-room Holiday Inn in Abu Dhabi.

Fujayrah, poorest and most remote member of the federation, is nevertheless in some ways the most ...tacular. Almost its only natural resources are its beauty and fishing. Above: fishermen draw in their ...s. Top left: a dance to welcome President Zayed on a visit to the Ruler's court. Top right: an old fort ...d a group of old houses are to be restored. Centre: the Hilton Hotel, opened last month.

Mr Muhammad Mahdi al-Tajir, the UAE Ambassador to London, is the most legendary of the country's expatriate advisers.

Expatriate voice in a shaikh's ear

by John Whelan

The cliché of the expatriate adviser at the shaikh's elbow, wearing a suit in the blazing sun and masked in reflecting dark glasses, is still true, despite the advance of qualified nationals in many walks of government.

The UAE has witnessed the appointment of several technocrats to the Council of Ministers (cabinet) since independence, notably the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Saif Ein-Ghobash, who was assassinated in October by a gunman who had taken aim at the visiting Syrian Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Abdul Halim Khaddam.

In a country which can produce only about 30 university graduates a year from its 862,000 population, fewer than 30 per cent of whom are native-born, the expatriate adviser, or expert, is often the decision maker.

Shaikh Sultan bin Muhammad al-Qasimi, the Ruler of Sharjah, the only university graduate among the seven rulers in the UAE, until recently retained the services of an American expatriate adviser, Dr Bart Paff. His role loosely defined was to act as go-between for foreign businessmen wishing to establish a business in Sharjah.

Sharjah, which among the emirates is particularly anxious to attract foreign investment, has followed a policy aimed at cutting out the local middleman. Last year Dr Paff told a business conference in London: "You do not go through intermediaries in Sharjah. Anyone who wants to approach the Government can approach me directly."

Dr Paff left the Ruler's staff after a cost-cutting exercise, but he was perhaps alone in being the most visible of the Western expatriate advisers close to a ruler.

The most legendary of the advisers is undoubtedly the present UAE ambassador to London, Mr Muhammad Mahdi al-Tajir, owner of Mereworth Castle, Kent and honorary citizen of the state of Texas. Mr al-Tajir still heads the Ruler of Dubai's office and advises on petroleum affairs. He was born a Bahraini and joined the Ruler's staff as a customs official. He made his first fortune through trading legally in gold.

When oil was discovered Mr al-Tajir helped the Ruler to negotiate with the oil companies and later advised other shaikhs on investment. He answers the question of his wealth diffidently: "I believe that any person in the world who has enough to live a decent life is the richest man in the world."

Mr al-Tajir is one of many Gulf nationals who are advising the shaikhs but men like him, and to a lesser extent Dr Paff, are untypical. Most of the expatriate experts are invisible and work behind the scenes.

Umm al Qaywayn is a small shaikhdom on the road between Ras al Khaymah and Dubai. The Municipality building is also the Ruler's office and temporary headquarters of the Umm al Qaywayn Chamber of Commerce.

The chief engineer and town planner Mr Alan Moss, is not an adviser in the Paff sense, but he helps the ruling family in its dealings with visiting Western businessmen as part of his job. Among the tips he passes on are: "Don't forget to do the courtesies with his Highness", adding confidentially: "You'd be surprised how many lose out by just omitting to be polite".

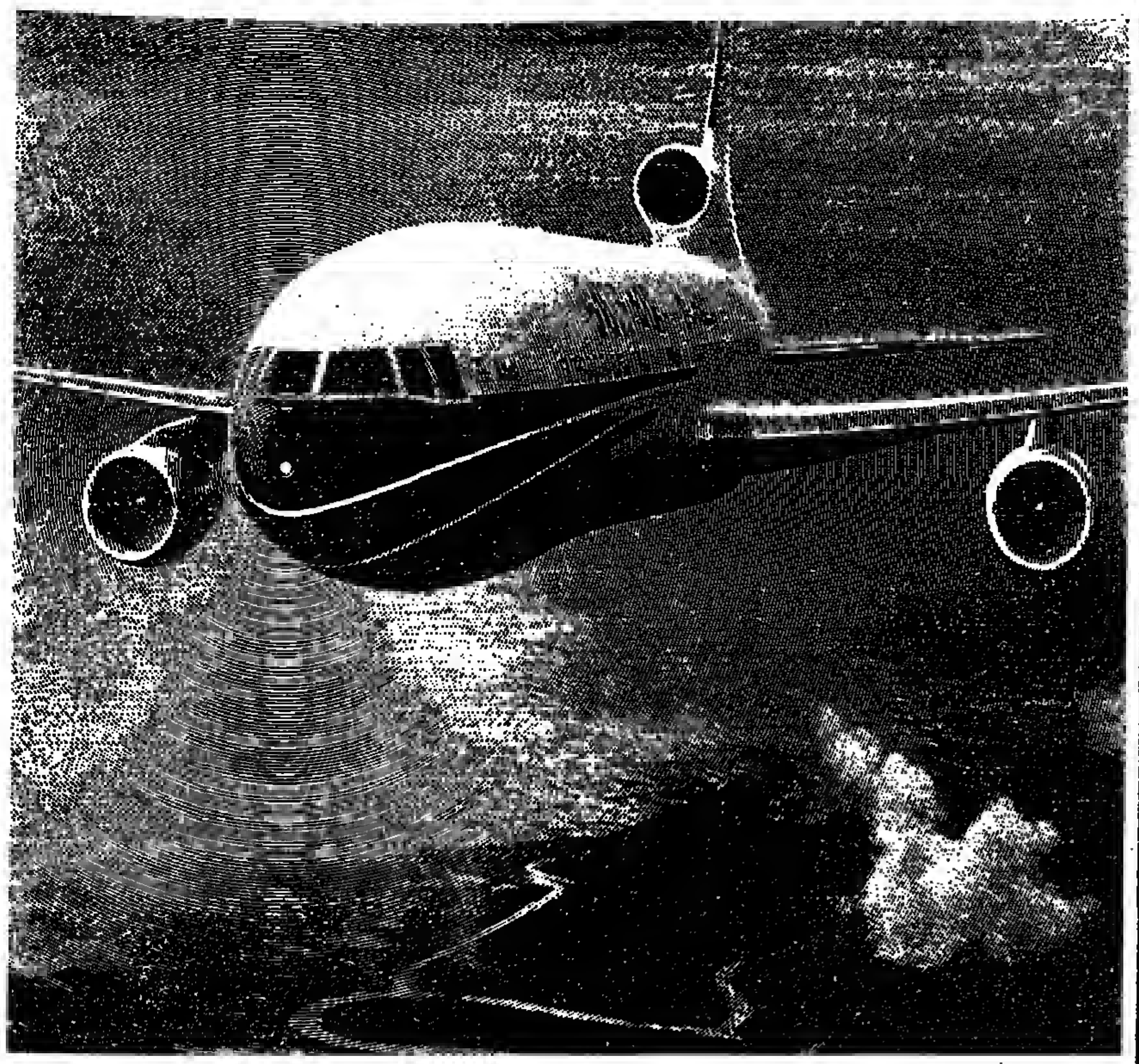
The northern emirates, particularly Ras al Khaymah, are heavily dependent on expatriate advisers in developing their communications and services. This is less so in Abu Dhabi, where there is more evidence of Arabization. Few British officers are left in the federal defence forces, for example, though some have been retained by the Ruler, Shaikh Zayed bin Sultan al Nahayan, to officer the royal guard because they are trusted.

Traditionally the Ruler was advised by the Abu Dhabi Investment Board on investment of oil surpluses. This predominately expatriate body was replaced in 1976 by the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority in which Arab advisers outnumbered the Western expatriates on the board. To some extent this exercise has been cosmetic since the authority still follows the advice of foreign banks, notably Robert Fleming & Company in Britain, Morgan Guaranty and White Weid in the United States, and Banque de l'Indochine et de Suez.

The cosmetic nature of some of the reshuffles is also clear at the UAE Currency Board where, last year, a national was for the first time appointed managing director of the board, which has most of the powers of a central bank. The managing director, Mr Abdel Malik al-Hamr, had no previous banking experience when he took over, after a short interregnum, the job previously held by an expatriate, Mr Ronald Scott.

A frequent occurrence is for an expatriate to be recruited for a job and then to find himself embroiled in the politics of bureaucracy and left with nothing to do. Many simply give up and go home or take jobs in the private sector.

INTERMARKETS



Dubai remains one of The Gulf's primary trading centres but the city's growth has led to opportunities for younger generations beyond those that were open to their forefathers. Tim Edgar talks to some of the most successful of the new breed

Quest for perfect English was his driving force

Easa Saleh al-Gurg laughs when he recalls how he was earning just £2 a month as a clerk in Dubai's first post office io 1939.

He is now an adviser to the British Bank of the Middle East; a director of Wardley Middle East; a director of the Dubai Electricity Company; his string of agencies include Grundig, British American Tobacco, Siemens, United Technology, Weir Westgarth and a host of furniture companies; and he has joint ventures with GKN, Foseco Minsep and Arabian Explosives. Altogether a rich and successful Dubai businessman.

Easa al-Gurg comes from a successful family but, nevertheless, his fortune has been self made. His father, a pearl merchant of some standing, brought him up in the orthodox Muslim tradition, sending him to a local Koranic school and even spending hours with him in the evenings teaching him to read and write from the Koran.

It was Dubai's first doctor, however, who began to change his life. The doctor was bored with having nothing to do and so he had opened a school.

"My mother wanted me to go there and learn English. She was a more worldly woman, but my father, who was a simple and learned man, was very much against it. My mother won and I went."

Easa, who was just 12 years old, was thrilled and quickly became fascinated by the English language. While his friends were playing with old kerosene cans they had turned into rafts on the creek, Easa would be spending every spare moment he had at the doctor's clinic working as a dispenser just so that he could practice some of the words he had learnt.

"When the British put in the first post office it seemed only natural that I should go and work there. My father became even more angry saying that it was not a job for an Arab—but I still went and did it."

By the time a visiting inspector spotted him and asked him to go and join the post office in Bahrain where his talents could be put to better use, he was running the Dubai Post Office almost single handed.

Easa had been in Bahrain three years, regularly attending night school to improve his English, when he was offered a job with the Imperial Bank of Iran (later to become the BBME).

They trained him for six months before sending him back to Dubai where he became the first Arab to be appointed an A grade officer, giving him the same powers as a British officer.

"Through my family connexions I arranged for the first branch of the bank to open in Abu Dhabi", he said.

"By that time it was then the British Bank of the Middle East and they sent me to England to learn even more English."

Indeed, his English is now impeccable and he has English expressions down to a fine art. He is equally proud of the fact that he was the first local translator for Dubai's Ruler, Shaikh Rashid bin Said al-Maktum, carrying out translations on two occasions for the Queen in London and once at 10 Downing Street with Mr Harold Macmillan.

"It was strange, I never thought of going into business on my own—and goodness knows, I had enough chances but every time I was approached to take on an agency or something I gave the opportunity away to a friend.

"I was far more interested in being on committee and getting involved in local affairs".

One such post he held was as Director of Development on the Trucial States Development Council.

"Finally I came to my senses when I saw my colleagues becoming very rich. That was when I thought about getting into business myself" Easa al-Gurg's first agency was Grundig, followed quickly by British American Tobacco, and from there it just grew."

How to make the big time in six years

One almost has to wade through the deep, thick-pile white carpets to reach a desk at the other end of the room—a private office rich in its mahogany and black leather chairs and which has panoramic views over Dubai's creek.

It is hard to believe that just over six years ago Abdulla Al Moosa was having great difficulty in scraping together his £1,000 worth of savings to launch what started out as a one-man structural engineering company, Arenco.

Today, Arenco is not just one of the most successful architectural and engineering consultancies in The Gulf but it is also one of the fastest growing.

Abdulla juggles with a bank of telephones which clutter his grandiose desk. On one line is Arenco in Houston. On another is Arenco in London and on others are, perhaps, his six other offices around The Gulf.

At the same time, messages may be coming in from an Arenco project in Mexico or from a man following up an inquiry in the Far East.

The smile on his face is understandable since this year alone the company, which he still heads single handed, will be handling projects worth in excess of £275m.

It all began in December 1971 shortly after Abdulla, at the age of 27, had returned from Arizona State University in the United States with a bachelor of science degree in engineering. He was hoping to start some sort of small company before returning to the United States to take a master's degree.

He was one of the first of a small group of Dubai nationals ever to graduate locally to go on to university abroad.

With £1,000 worth of savings from his university allowance he was limited in what he could do so he decided that a structural engineering company would be the cheapest to launch.

Employing just one Indian engineer he won the contract for a six-classroom extension to a local school. Unable to afford any more full-time staff he had to rely on part-time draughtsmen who would be working for other companies during the daytime and for Abdulla at night.

Finally came his break. A competition for the new Shaikh Hamdan building in Dubai had come up almost two months previously.

"There was only 10 days before the close of the competition and two other big consultants were already in the running", Abdulla said.

"Shaikh Hamdan said it was not worth me trying because I had no staff but I did have 10,000 dirhams (at that time about £1,000) so I went to Beirut and spent 8,000 dirhams getting someone to draw up the plans. I arrived back in Dubai the same morning the competition closed—and we won it. From there I just hired more people."

Abdulla never did get back to the United States to take his master's degree. In his first year he made about £700 but it gave him the enthusiasm to continue. The next year he made close to £3,000 and in 1974 Arenco made its first million dirhams.

The list of work is as impressive as his earnings. Among more than 500 projects that the company has handled are the new British Bank of the Middle East offices in Deira, the Dubai Chamber of Commerce Building, 21 flats in Abu Dhabi and a host of palaces. One of his prestige projects, the Dubai Airport Hotel, will be completed in August.

There are now more than 200 staff employed in the UAE and another 100 in London and Houston. Next he hopes to open an office in Saudi Arabia.

Abdulla Al Moosa has proved that you do not have to be a merchant to make money.

Pearling fleet launched diverse and influential career

He points to the hundreds of pink markers on the large map of The Gulf which adorns his office. "They are the pearling grounds", he says proudly, "and I could name every one of them. We even used to be able to find them in the dark."

Saif Ahmed al-Ghurair takes great delight in recalling the memories of his childhood and the days he spent helping his father in the pearling industry. His first trip on board one of his father's fleet occurred when he was just 10 years old. At the age of 14 he became skipper of his own ship with a crew of 100 men.

Although he is 53, he remembers it as if it happened yesterday and it all seems far removed from the life that he now leads as one of Dubai's top businessmen.

As president of the Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry, chairman of the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry in the UAE, and chairman of some 18 other companies varying from a bank to construction concerns, Saif al-Ghurair rarely has the time to reminisce as much as he would perhaps like to. He fondly refers to his youth as the "good days", and it was undoubtedly those early years which played an important part in moulding his career.

For Saif al-Ghurair the pearling industry was short-lived. As soon as the Japanese cultured pearl began threatening the industry in The Gulf his father, like so many other pearl fishermen, began converting their ships to carry cargo and ply the routes between the Gulf and India. "We would carry dates from Iraq to Bombay and Calcutta and bring back clothes and timber."

As was traditional, the family worked as a unit and when young Saif was able to begin full-time work for his father, after leaving school, he was soon obliged to make decisions for himself, controlling a part of the family business.

It was he who proved the adventuresome one, tending to search for new trading areas, such as Mogadishu and Mombasa.

After the war, market trends began to change and India again became the primary trade route. Saif al-Ghurair was becoming increasingly successful and his father and one of his brothers, Abdulla—who, he says, "can smell the value of land"—were investing money in property and land in the UAE.

Other ventures were started, such as buying scrap wire rope from the United Kingdom which was sold to fishermen to make nets, and the family became involved in currency and bullion exchange which subsequently led to the formation of their bank, the Bank of Oman. All the

continued on facing page

...erial view of the Marbella Club, Sharjah. Conforce, which built the club, is a partnership between a Pakistani company and the ...truction interests of Mr Abdul Rahman Bukhatir.

Self-made man who built his fortune on construction

...ough Abdul Rahman ...atir sits at the head ... small empire with an ...al turnover in excess ...00m he is a very ...an sort of persoo. He ...meone who is as ...ested to talk about ...et aod football as ...s and shares and a man ...hom success has not ... easily. He has been bankrupt.

...have made mistakes ...nyone else", he says. Abdul Rahman Bukhatir ...ertheless, a self-made ...essman.

...e was born in 1940 at ...e wheo Sharjah was a British protectorate and at a time of wartime rationiog. As a pearl merchant, bis father made enough for his family to live on and for Abdul to be sent away to school at nine years old to Pakistan.

"I came hack in 1958 and, I suppose like everyooe else, began speculating." He spent several months working with a number of foreign banks where he was always considered an important person as one of the relatively few people at that time who spoke good English and Arabic and had a head for figures.

"I was only 18 and I suppose I was looking for the shortest cut. I managed to save 10,000 dirhams which I spent opening an electrical equipment shop in Dubai selling such things as ice-cream making machines.

"I was obviously thinking far too far ahead—trying to sell ice-cream cones when nobody had really heard of ice-cream. At the end of three months I had nothiog—I was bankrupt."

Back he went to the banks for a short time before being invited by the Sharjah Government to open an office for oil relations, acting as a liaison between the Government and oil companies looking for concessions in the area. But even this was hardly the way to his fortune. The way to that opening in 1964. "It was the beginniog of the reexport busioess. People would invest their money in different syndicates exporting gold and watches. On a year's average, you couldn't lose."

What was made was nearly always put into buying land and, subsequently, property.

"As the whole area prospered you didn't know it but you were making money all the time."

By the time Mr Bukhatir embarked on another retail venture he had learnt to act cautiously. "At that time, if you wanted to open a shop it was a choice between building materials and foodstuffs. With foodstuffs you would always have the worry that it could go stale before you sold it—so I chose building materials."

His formula proved to be successful and the building materials expanded into construction equipment, into air conditioning and, finally, into construction itself. "I have always worked on the basis that one thing can naturally lead to another. Once you see the banks are making too much money out of you, you opeo a bank; likewise, if your insurance is costing too much you open an insurance company."

To safeguard his interests even further and, at the same time, obtain expert knowledge, almost all his businesses have been set up on a partnership basis. Companies such as Conforce, a construction partnership he set up with a Pakistani company, has built the Holiday Inn in Sharjah and the Marbella Club and is working on projects such as the Sharjah Inter-Continental Hotel and another Holiday Inn in Abu Dhabi.

There is Eastern Contracting, which is a partnership with an Indian company; Emitac, the air conditioning and electrical company with Pakistan partners; and the National Bank of Sharjah whose shareholders include Crédit Suisse, Hambro and Mitsui.

There is also a long string of smaller companies with British, American and German partners and, in addition, Mr Bukhatir is deputy chairman of the Bank of Sharjah.

Pearling fleet launched diverse and influential career

continued from facing page

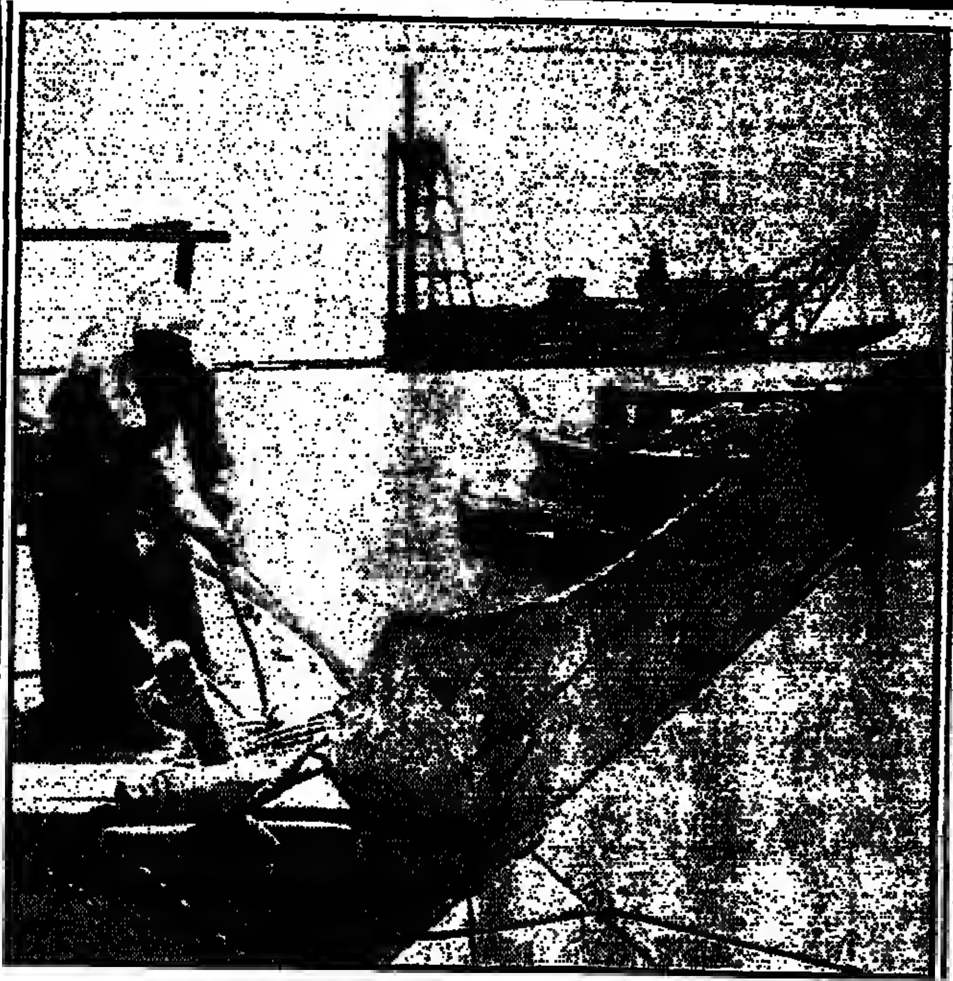
trading activities are now carried out under the banner of Emirates Trading Agencies.

"We had to form a separate division for it because we have had to move with the times. It is still an important part of our business but we have become increasingly involved with production companies. There will be a time very shortly when Dubai must be self-sufficient in many things."

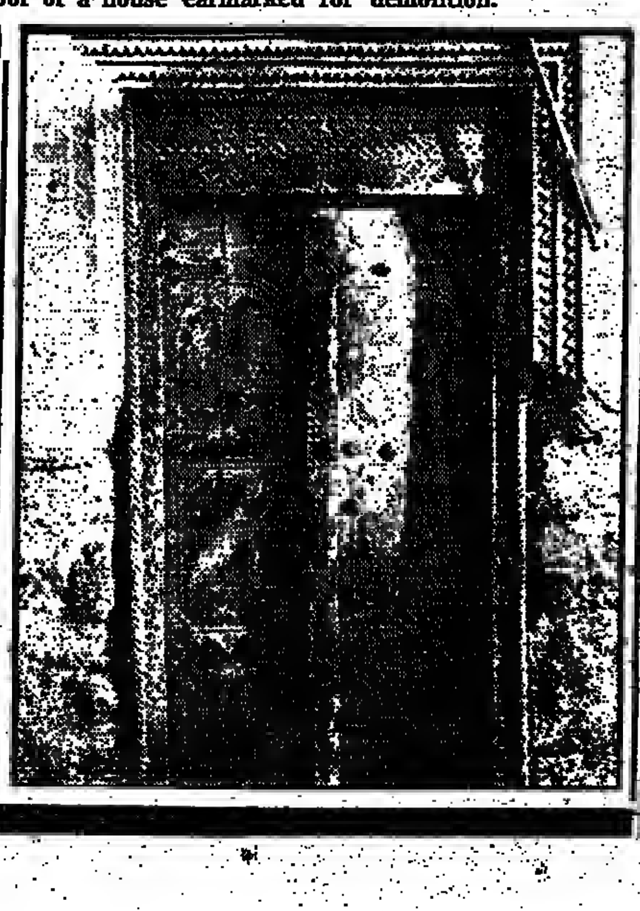
During the past three years his investment in such projects as Dubai's National Cement Company, the National Flour Mills Company, Ghurair and Tarmac Construction, Ghurair Crown Engineering and a host of others has been more than £150m.

Already the eldest of his five sons—he also has seven daughters—sits at his side in his office and plays an active part in the company's affairs. He will never be able to talk about the pearl fields and sailing ships, but it is still a family business and he will be able to reminisce about it.

The smoke chamber and kiln under construction by Costain Process Engineering for Dubai's new cement works. Cement is one of the business interests of Mr Saif al-Ghurair.



Umm al Qaywayn draws much of its revenue from a share of Sharjah's modest oil revenue. Most of its plans are centred on housing and office blocks and extension of the creek, although consideration is being given to a new port. Above: a chicken farm at Falaj al-Moalla; centre: local youths on the beach; top: fisberman secures his boat, while a dredger deepens the harbour in the background. Below: carved door of a house earmarked for demolition.



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Dr Rodney Wilson discusses latest developments in the construction industry which involve many ambitious projects by British firms

familiar sight in Abu Dhabi—half-finished buildings and empty sites heir occupants. Centre: the new palace of Shaikh Ahmed, the Ruler of il Qaywayn. Above: work at Port Rashid, Dubai, on what will be the dry dock in the world.

Building boom shows no signs of abating

Despite some worries that last year's loss of business confidence would end the construction boom, building activity in the United Arab Emirates shows no signs of entering a permanent recession. A tighter control of bank credit resulted in there being few buildings begun during 1977, but this year the construction industry appears to be more buoyant than ever, and most of those concerned are confident that the market will remain strong into the 1980s.

Meanwhile many of the ambitious projects started during the heady days after the 1973-74 oil-price increases are nearing completion, and the people of the United Arab Emirates can see for the first time exactly what their oil revenue can buy.

The most conspicuous project is undoubtedly the 39-storey Dubai International Trade and Exhibition Centre, the tallest building in the United Arab Emirates. This massive project, like many others in the region, is being undertaken by a United Kingdom firm, Bernard Sunley and Sons. The £56m project, which includes a 335-room hotel, is due to be completed in the latter part of next year.

Not to be outdone by Dubai, Abu Dhabi also has plans for a trade centre, though on a more modest scale, at a cost of £10m. This centre, which will probably be finished after the Dubai complex, was designed by the British architects, Scott, Brownrigg and Turner, and is being built by the National Construction Company of Pakistan. The building will comprise two six-storey towers, built over a shopping centre, the first in the emirates. On the roof of the air-conditioned shopping centre an Arabian garden is planned with plants and fountains, which should appeal to local tastes.

Unfortunately most of the new construction being undertaken in The Gulf takes little account of traditional *Islamic* designs, and the emirates are starting to resemble bustling North American cities visually and losing their individual architectural identity.

There are some notable exceptions, however, the recently completed Shaikh Mohammed bin Zayed building in Abu Dhabi being a notable case. Designed by a London firm of architects, Fitzroy, Robinson and Partners, the building has attractive curved arches at ground-floor level which conform with Arab building traditions.

Above this the 15-storey building has massive glass outer walls, which are blue on the outside and clear inside. The walls of blue glass harmonize with the colour of the water in the gulf near by, yet are highly practical, as they were designed by Pilkington Brothers to cut down glare and heat penetration. Inside, the building is equally sumptuous.

Although many of the commercial banks in the emirates have first-class office facilities, the Currency Board is at present having to put up with temporary accommodation in part of the Universal Trade Centre buildings in Abu Dhabi, which, though comfortable enough, is rather cramped. However, Costain, the United Kingdom-based building firm, has been awarded a $36m contract to build a new headquarters for the board, which should be large enough to cater for its needs.

The links between banks and the construction industry involve not only demand factors, arising from their need for office facilities, but also supply factors. Locally based banks, and the local offices of big multi-national financial institutions, have supplied much of the finance for the construction boom in the United Arab Emirates.

The amounts of finance needed are naturally increasing with inflation, and the largest personal syndicated loan so far, worth $19m, was granted to Shaikh Suroor bin Mohammed al-Nahayan, a nephew of the Ruler of Abu Dhabi, to build the Abu Dhabi Trade Centre.

As well as the needs of the clients sponsoring the new building projects, the construction firms themselves require highly specialized banking services. These include performance guarantees, letters of credit and adequate foreign exchange facilities.

Middle East construction procedures present particular difficulties for the banks, because, the tendering period being longer in the region than elsewhere, once a tender is granted, the time is generally much shorter before work must start. This allows little time to arrange finance, and guarantees are therefore often sought before tenders are granted. The banks, however, are reluctant to grant such stand-by credits, as they can be costly to arrange in terms of the banking manpower required, yet in the end if the credits are not taken up, there are no returns for the banks concerned.

Last autumn these financial difficulties were discussed at an important conference held in Dubai, sponsored jointly by the monthly magazine *Middle East Construction* and the Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The conference coincided with a Middle East construction exhibition at which most of the main firms involved in the area were represented. So successful was this event, that a further exhibition is being organized for this year, and it will be held in Dubai from October 29 to November 4. Dubai seems a particularly appropriate venue for a conference of this sort, as it is the location for many of the largest projects being undertaken in the Middle East.

Much of the new construction activity in the United Arab Emirates is concerned with the building of luxury hotels or of high-quality residential accommodation. Bernard Sunley and Sons is active in this direction, too, and last December the firm who awarded a £14m contract for the construction of a residential complex for the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company on the Abu Dhabi corniche near the Hilton Hotel.

The contract provides for 153 luxury apartments of up to 2,150 sq ft, together with a supermarket, kindergarten, sports hall, health centre, social club and laundry for the oil company employees.

In January it was announced that Taylor Woodrow International was acting as project controller for another development, in the Dubai residential suburb of Jumairah, in which 234 executive homes will be built. These are to have a novel system of insulation made up of double-density, foil-faced, glass fibre insulation blankets. The roof vents will be thermostatically controlled to ensure a continuous flow of air circulation in the attics during hot weather. In this way it is hoped to save on air conditioning, and cut down fuel bills.

With the new residential developments now under construction, the housing difficulties for the higher paid employees in the United Arab Emirates will soon be eased. Unfortunately the expensive accommodation being provided does little to solve the housing problem for the less well paid civil servants, or the construction workers themselves, who comprise half the workers of the country.

A familiar sight for the visitor to Abu Dhabi today is the thousands of Pakistani and Indian construction employees who sleep on the pavements at night, as they either cannot or will not pay the high rents demanded for accommodation.

That cannot be allowed to continue, as the governments are well aware. In Sharjah last year rents were frozen by government decree, while in Dubai, the Ruler, Shaikh Rashid, is undertaking the development of lower-cost housing himself. It seems likely that in the future the pattern of construction activity in the emirates will change, with more emphasis on cheaper, simpler, units. That, however, should present the construcion industry with a challenge if they try to maintain high standards of design and finish while reducing costs.

Abu Dhabi gives away 30 per cent of its income in foreign aid. Geoffrey Weston explains the r[ole] of the Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development and outlines some of the project[s] it has helped to finance

Generosity stinted only by rigorous vetting

Last month the presideots of Senegal, Mali and Mauritania arrived in Abu Dhabi together for an official visit. Before they left President Gouled of Djibouti flew in and a few days later was followed by Mr Dom Mintoff, Prime Minister of Malta. There is nothing unusual in such a busy course of Third World leaders, especially if it follows a period of absence from the capital by President Zayed bin Sultan al Nahayan.

The West African trio were seeking substantial financial aid for two dams on the Senegal river which would irrigate 1,200,000 acres and provide 800 million kW of electricity to power iroo mines in Mali and Senegal. Inflation had caused the cost of the project to soar from the original estimate of $190m to $500m.

President Gouled needed cash to bale his little country out of its economic difficulties and to launch small industries aimed at reducing imports. Mr Mintoff was soliciting a loan for port development at Marsaxlokk.

The geoerosity of Abu Dhabi's aid programme is well known. All UAE foreign aid is paid out of Abu Dhabi's oil surpluses and last year, at $1,200m, represented 30 per cent of its oil revenues. It is channelled partly through the federal Ministry of Finance, partly through direct handouts from Shaikh Zayed, but principally through the Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development (ADFAED), which will ultimately handle 90 per cent of it.

ADFAED is not only a lending agency but also acts as a consultaot and data source to the Government on economic and fioancial matters. It represents the Government in the World Bank, the Arab Fuod for Economic and Social Development and similar organizations.

It strongly advocates coordination betweeo Arab funds, a policy which is now bearing fruit. Last year it organized international talks in Abu Dhabi aimed at setting up a regional technical resources centrel, and a further round of talks took place in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The fund already cooperates with a wide range of organizations from the Kuwaiti Fund to the Asian Development Bank.

It was origioally set up in July 1971 with capital of $120m to help other Arab countries in need. In practice it started in 1973 with 11 projects in eight countries, more than half of the expenditure earmarked for public service projects and the rest on agriculture, tourism and industry.

The oil boom raised the capital to $500m the next year and the scope was widened to include African and Asian countries. Under its terms of reference the fund may not pay out more than 10 per ceot of its capital on any one project nor more than 50 per cent of a project's total cost. In special cases these conditions may be waived by a two thirds majority of the board.

Last month Mr Nasr al Nowais became director of ADFAED, baving been deputy director and a member of the temporary triumvirate running the UAE Currency Board. It was he who has headed missions to investigate loan projects. The first countries visited were Tunisia, Somalia, North Yemen, Jordon, Syria, Egypt, Bahrain and Mauritania.

In June 1975 came a tour of Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Niger and Burundi, followed by a second tour that took in Ivory Coast, Comoro Islands, Senegal and Sierra Leone. The following year the spotlight fell on Asia with visits to India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, the Maldive Republic and Malaysia.

In theory the fund adopts no bias of any kind towards its applicants, although in practice other Arab nations still receive the lion's share. South Yemen's Marxism has not prevented UAE participation in two projects in that country.

The loan terms are soft, repayments at 3 to 6 per cent plus ½ per cent as a service charge may be spread over 10 to 20 years, but a grace period is allowed for the first three to five years. There are no hard-and-fast rules: interest rates may be reduced or repayments extended. To a limited extent capital may be invested in joint projects and the profits shared, but there is no question of underwriting budget deficits. Investments must generate revenue.

African countries are criticized for inadequate preparation in their applications, Kenya being a notable exception. Those with comprehensive economic plans are approved of and the fund takes care to note the most important sectors, sometimes commissioning feasibility studies. If a project proves to be invalid then studies would normally be paid for by a direct grant from the fund. Foreign advisers may also be called upon.

Researchers examine the ability to repay a loan and the interrelationship of a country's economic sectors, including the financial, economic and social aspects of each proposal. Some technical aid may be provided, although mostly it takes the form of cash pay[ments] paid in UAE dir[hams].

Forms of gua[rantee] insurance are [...] stable regim[es] naturally prefer[red] [...] gress is vetted [...] are made. All [...] cedures mean t[...] ment is slow, [...] underspeot and [...] annual report [...] awaited.

Although one [...] spokesman emp[hasized the] importance of [...] evaluation of p[...] prisingly no edu[...] gramme has be[en] so far. As reven[ues] grow, this notal[...] will presumabl[y] good and other [...] of the world, s[...] America, will be [...] its orbit.

Watering oil palms in Malaysia. Abu Dhabi has lent 17m dirhams to develop the industry in

From harnessing the Ganges to fostering tourism

India

Power project
Loan: 68m dirhams
Duration: June 1976-Janoary 1996
Interest rate: 3.5 per cent

Repayment 30 instalments, half-yearly, from July, 1981. The project aims to generate power from the Ganges river for rural development projects in north-east India to benefit a population of 95 million. The power will provide electric lighting and industry and will pump underground water to farming areas with inadequate supplies.

The course of the river to the south of Hardwar will be diverted into a channel 14km long, but will rejoin the main water course at the site of a power station containing three generators. The total cost is 197.2m dirhams, of which more than half is allocated for construction and the rest for electrical installations. The fund loan is earmarked for the latter.

Malaysia

Palm oil project in Sarawak
Loan: 17m dirhams
Duration: November 1976-May 1991
Interest rate: 4 per cent
Repayment: 20 instalments, half-yearly, from November 1981

The aim is to plant 25,000 acres of palm oil as part of a comprehensive agricultural plan for Sarawak. Included in the project is a fruit-processing plant to extract raw oil for export at the rate of 60 tons of fruit an hour, as well as other machinery and warehousing.

Maldive Republic

Floating freezer and storage vessels and fishing assembly boats
Loan: 8m dirhams
Duration: August 1976-July 1987
Interest rate: 3 per cent
Repayment: 20 instalments, half-yearly, from January 1978

Fishing provides 90 per cent of the economy. Ten assembly boats and two floating units for freezing and shipping the catch are to be provided. Each unit has a capacity of 400 tons and can freeze, store and transport 8,800 tons a year.

South Yemen

Geology survey of Jobar district and coastline:
Loan: 6.58m dirhams
Duration: April 1976-June 1989
Interest rate: 2 per cent
Repayment: 10 instalments, half-yearly, from June 1980

The first phase consists of a detailed study to prepare maps and a geological, geochemical and geophysical survey in Maabeer and Jobar, copper mines in Jobar valley and black sands on the beaches to evaluate the economic value of any minerals.

The project employs three groups of technicians and executives. The field groups require transport and equipment, including instruments for geochemical studies, analysis and X-ray photography. Other equipment is required for studying minerals and drilling.

Sudan

Cotton spinning plant
Loan: 80m dirhams
Duration: July 1976-October 1988
Interest rate: 4.5 per cent
Repayment: 20 instalments, half-yearly, from April 1979

The plant, in the Hadj Abdullah district, is intended to manufacture 7,700 tons a year for local consumption and 2,650 for export. The plant is to contain spinning machines, a laboratory and a workshop and will be equipped with electrical and fire-fighting equipment, air conditioning, internal transport and offices. The loan represents 57 per cent of the total cost (264m dirhams).

Syria

Electrical coordination centres
Loan: 52m dirhams
Duration: September 1974-September 1993
Interest rate: 4.5 per cent
Repayment: 30 instalments, half-yearly, from March 1979

These units direct and control power distribution and guarantee needs at any required location by computer. They make the best use of power stations and restore power as quickly as possible in the event of failure.

The project is part of an integrated plan to increase electrical power and improve efficiency. It entails building a main power station, switches and transmission lines. Two main centres are being provided, one in Damascus and one in Aleppo, and regional centres in the same two cities as well as Homah. The total cost is 65m dirhams.

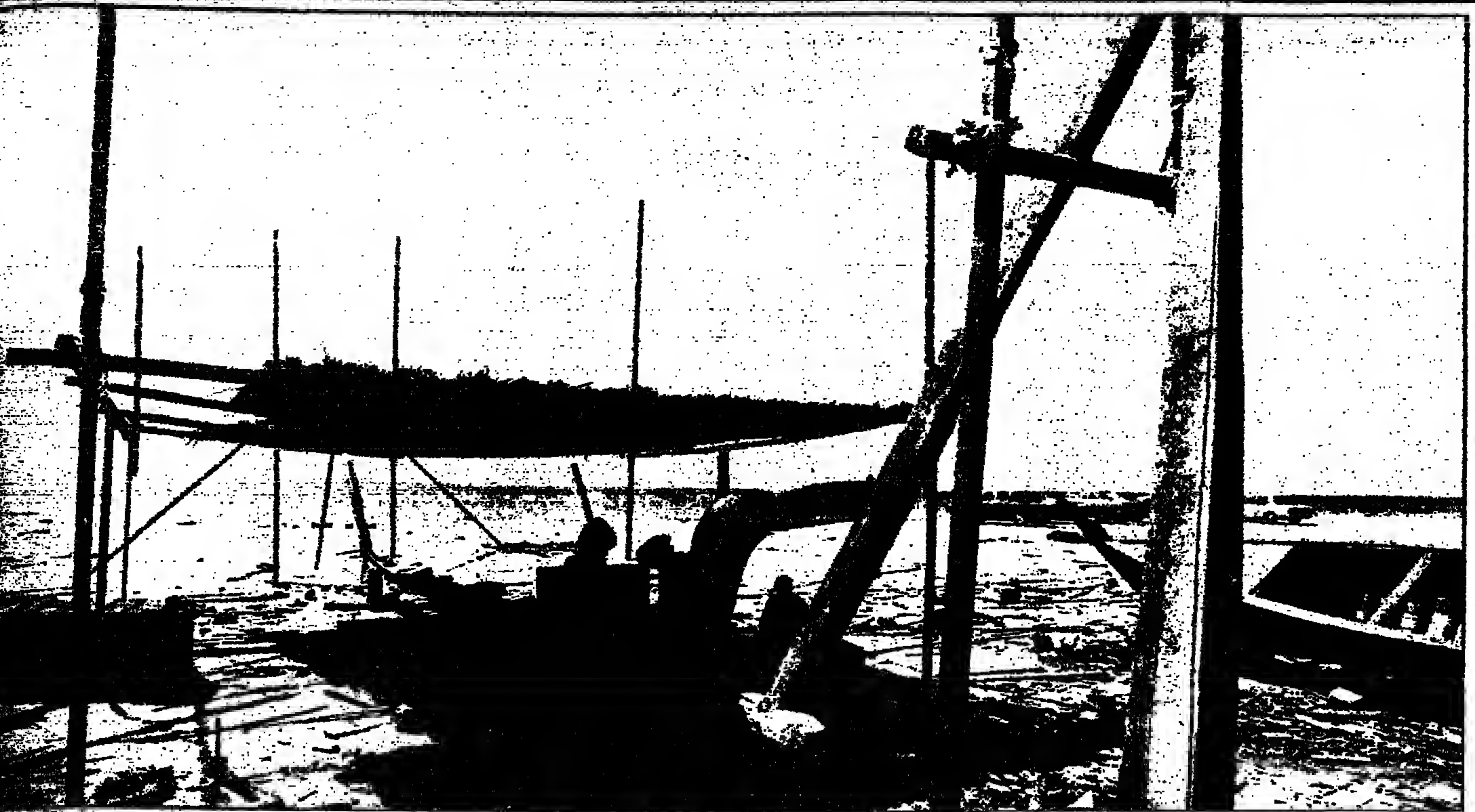
Tunisia

Northern Sousse tourist development
Loan: 20.7m dirhams
Duration: December 1974 — October 1989
Interest rate: 5 per cent
Repayment: 20 instalments, half-yearly from April 1980.

North of Sousse a development occupying 270 acres will be of fundamental importance to the future of the tourist industry. It will include an hotel, flats and houses for sale to foreign investors, a marina, golf course and parks.

A development company in charge of the plan is offering the rest of the land to hotel owners provided the revenue is invested in suitable housing while the Tunisian Government will provide water, electricity and other basic services. The total cost is 105m dirhams and in addition to the loan the fund is investing 11m dirhams in the project.

حلا امنة الاصل



...is the smallest of the emirates and has prospered mainly because of its low housing rents and close proximity to the commercial ...f Sharjah. Plans include an extension to the small port and an ambitious garden city. As these pictures show, many traditional ...s of life continue. Making wire fish traps on the left. The ancient art of Dhow building can be seen in the pictures at the ...left and top. At the right axe-wielding fishermen chop up shark fins for Japan. Below: shipping in the creek.

Geoffrey Weston presents a profile of Ras al Khaymah, most northerly of the emirates, and talks to its controversial Ruler Shaikh Saqr

Fierce independence moulds a folk hero

Little more than 10 years agn Ras al Khaymah was a long, dusty drive by Land-Rover from Dubai. It is now harely one and a balf hours by an excellent toad, nearly all of it a dual carriageway. In the final stages the landscape changes considerably, the flat sandy plain punctuated by occasional wandering camels giving way to a greener landscape of scrub and cultivation with a backcloth of rugged mountaios.

Shaikh Saor has been Ruler since 1948 and he is immensely popular with bnth his own people and expatriates, who together total about 70,000. His wily defence of local interests and his fierce independence and outspokenoess have won him something of the reputation of a folk hero. When the United Arab Emirates was formed he initially declined tn join but changed his mind three months later when it was clear that there was no immediate prospect of finding substaotial nil reserves.

Offshore exploration has continued and may do so for another five years. Some of the deepest drilling in The Gulf has yielded 6.000 harrels a day of light crude, but no storage facilities have heen built until the prospects improve.

In an interview with *The Times*, Shaikh Saqr made no secret of his disenchantment with the way the federation is workiog. He accepts that strength arises from unity, but claims that the federal administration has not been as generous as people in Ras al Khaymah had expected. Neither the funds nur the technical advice for development have heen forthcoming. One adviser quoted customs control and postal services as two sectors that bave heen yielded to federal control witbout auy revenue in return.

On tbe eve of independence the Shah of Iran sent troops to occupy the two Tumb islands, which are peopled by Shaikh Saqr's tribe, the Qasim, all of whom were expelled to Ras al Khaymah.

Neither the British, who were theoretically still responsible for defeoce for a few more hours, nor the federal Government have taken any effective steps to regain the territory, potentially valuable for the offshore rights it bestows. This incident and tbe recent border dispute with Oman have increased the Ruler's lack of coofidence in tbe effectiveness of federal powers.

He is particularly bitter that the loan of 1,000m dirhams he negotiated with the UAE Currency Board, payable over eight years, was withdrawn at the time of the credit squeeze last summer two years after a contract was signed. He has had to resort to a Eurcdollar loan in order to meet his development commitments.

Order tea or coffee in auy one of tbe UAE's luxury hotels aod you will almost certainly be offered evaporated nr recoostituted milk to go with it. On the other hand the lowliest urban dweller in Ras al Khaymah can depend on a daily delivery of fresh, creamy oilk.

The reason is the experimental dairy farm at Digdaga, where 175 Friesians, the country's ooly commercial dairy herd, graze on an artificially sprinkled pasture, a project which the Ruler has taken nver from federal authority.

Across the road is another agricultural research station run by the Ministry of Agriculture in association with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. There a wide variety cf vegetables, fruit and salad products is grown and there is also an agricultural technical college.

About 60 per cent of the country's agricultural produce comes from within this relatively fertile emirate but although technical support such as spraying and seed supplies can be excellent, farm management and marketing experience are lacking, so that self-sufficiency in fruit and vegetables for the indigenous population, which cnuld be a reality, becomes instead more remote.

Pending a hreakthrough by the oil prospectors the brighest bopes are centred on the exceptiooally high-quality rock, which is quarried at Khot Khwair in the north and exported as aggregate from a jetty near by. It is being used in Saudi Arabia's massive port and industrial develnpment at Jubayl and prospects for using it in tbe planned causeway between Bahrain and Saudi Arabia are good. The tock is free of sulphur and supplies are almost inexhaustible. In the same area are an important cement factory aod another which manufactures cemeot block. There are also recent plans to export sand. Together these industries are planned to form the oucleus of a comprehensive industrial estate in a corridor between the communities of Sha'am and Rams, sandwiched between the mouotains and the sea. The first stage of a new seven-bertb port was opened last September. Kuwait, ao important investor, bas beeo exploring the possibility of building an oil refinery.

In tbe long term there are hopes that tourism could become ao important source of income. Temperatures are cooler thao in the more southerly emirates, a factor which induced Shaikh Rashid of Dubai to buy a weekend house there. Certainly the climate in winter is pleasant by European standards.

Excellent sandy beaches are still undeveloped aod there is only one hotel, although a very comfortable one. For five years it housed the country's ooly casino, until it became impractical to restrict it to foreigners and pressure from Saudi Arabia closed it last year.

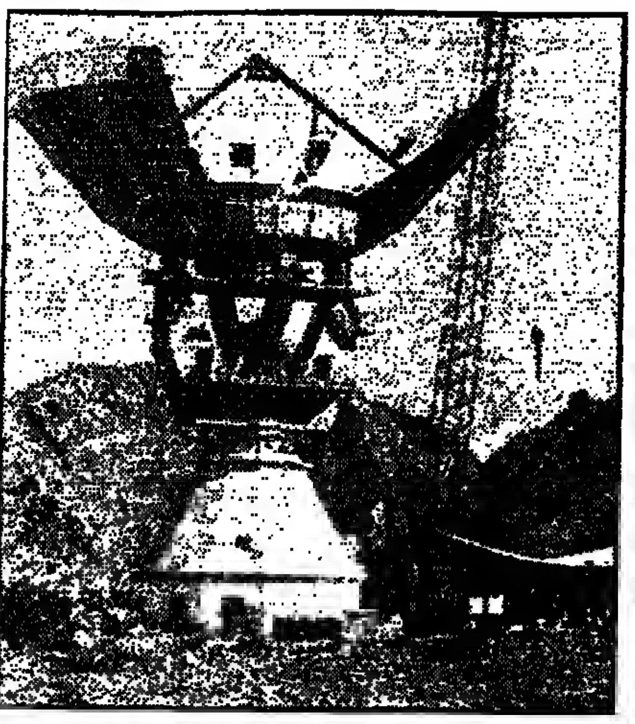
A 250-room Inter Continental and a 100-room hotel named after Ben Majid, reputedly Vasco da Gama's Ras al Khaymah navigator, should both be open next year and a chalet development is under construction. There is a plan to turn the area around a hot mineral spring at Khatt into a spa resort.

Trips into the mountains and desert are possibilities. One nf the main purposes nf such excursions could be tn explore the still largely unexcavated archaeological remains. There is an ancient cemetery, reputed to be 800 years old, and the remains of a number of once impressive structures, some of which are believed to have comprised a palace belonging to the Queeo of Sbeba. She is thought to have disembarked from a ship offshore and travelled in a smaller boat by a canal connecting sea and palace, although its line has not been firmly established.

At strategic points aloog the coast stand a number of stone towers built in tbe early nineteenth century to give warning of tbe approach of English ships sent by the East India Company in revenge for attacks by the people of Ras al Kharmab. Their bistorical interest is unfortunately not appreciated by the Beduin, who occasionally help themselves to stones to build their own homes. The most important archaeological remains are to be housed in a new museum.

There are no taxes of any kind and social benefits are generous, but Shaikh Saqr has not been able to resist the temptation to make his mark with two prestige projects clearly in anticipation of an economic boom which could only be based on oil.

The international airport opened in 1976 with a weekly flight to Kuwait. There are flights six days a week covering Abu Dhabi-Kuwait, Bombay, Beirut and Bahrain, and next month there will be two flights a week to Am... have conoexions ... Europe. An impressive satellite station, built ... Siemens, was opened ... year, but characteris... will not be connected ... national network.



Shaikh Saqr and, top, the earth communications satellite station under construction. Right: the hot springs at Khatt which will form the centre of an ambitious spa complex.

مطابق للأصل

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